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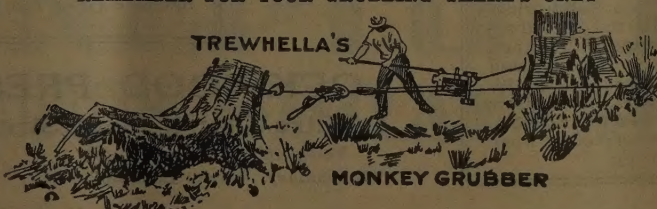
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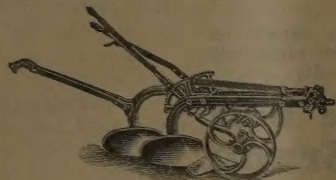
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Editorial Chats



National Marks for Quality.

THE SETTING up of standards for the local sale of fruit is one which has engaged the thoughtful attention of growers, wholesalers and retailers. Those interested in the fruit industry of Australia are taking notice of the activities in England and New Zealand in this connection. In England the National Mark system is operating whereby fruit and produce of all kinds can be marketed as true to grade under an authorised brand denoting quality. In New Zealand a similar system known as Dominion Mark is operating. The New Zealand Fruitgrowers' Federation officially guarantees the quality,—the cases being embellished with a Dominion Mark label indicating that the buyer can purchase without inspection. Such fruit and produce officially branded sells at a premium. This subject is one which the fruitgrowers and all interested in the industry in the several States of Australia should give close attention.

APPLE BY-PRODUCTS.

WITH THE PRESENT PROLIFIC APPLE season, when low prices are ruling, growers would be glad for surplus supplies to be taken off the market and put to more profitable use. Particulars are given in this issue of the "Fruit World" of the success in U.S.A. of a sparkling, non-alcoholic Apple drink. The process was discovered after much experiment at the New York Experiment Station, the funds for the purpose having been granted by the State Legislature. A technical Bulletin has been issued describing the process in detail with illustrations, and it is to be hoped that growers and merchants in Australia will speedily follow this excellent example.

SELLING APPLES AND PEARS BY NUMBER.

It is noted with pleasure that Apples and Pears are being sold by number instead of weight at the Victorian Railways fruit stalls, though this method is not adopted generally by fruit retailers.

Other fruit, such as Oranges, Bananas, Pineapples, etc., are sold by number from retail shops, and it is a matter of continual surprise that fruit such as Apples, Pears and Quinces still continue to be sold by weight. It is unfair both to the producer and the seller: large sized fruit invariably suffers.

The time is overdue for reform on this matter when all such fruit should be sold by number instead of by weight.

OFFER TO PURCHASE QUINCES.

Mr. P. Brown, of Spreyton, Tasmania, is a cash buyer of large or small quantities of Quinces. Growers are asked to quote on wharf, Melbourne, and prices must be bedrock. The Quinces need not be first grade. Offers are to be made direct to Mr. P. Brown, fruit buyer, Spreyton, Tasmania. Cash with order.

THRIPS INVESTIGATION.

It is pleasing to note that Mr. H. Andrewartha, Entomologist, has been appointed for work in connection with the Thrips Investigation scheme, and is working at the Waite Research Institute, Adelaide, with Dr. Davidson. It is proposed that Mr. Andrewartha should come to Melbourne early in April and make his headquarters at the University, and Dr. Davidson might accompany him. Mr. Andrewartha hopes to get in close touch with Apple-growing centres, and in particular with growers who will co-operate with him in this work.

The 1934 Farmers' Convention under the auspices of the Victorian Chamber of Agriculture, will be held at Shepparton.

VICTORIA'S NEW AGENT-GENERAL.

Mr. Richard Linton, M.L.A.

Mr. Richard Linton, who has been appointed the new Agent-General to succeed Mr. W. Leitch, handed in his resignation as a member for Booroondara to the Speaker on March 21. Mr. Linton expressed his thanks for the courtesy extended to him during his six years of membership.

He will leave for London in July to take up his duties, and since his appointment, Mr. Linton has been busy enquiring into the interests of the primary producers throughout the State with the idea of gaining first-hand knowledge of our industries. He visited the sheds of the Mildura Co-op., the Aurora Co., and the Red Cliffs Co-op., and with the information he has gathered, he should be most helpful in the marketing of Australian produce.

Mr. Linton has had experience in London previously, and has prepared useful reports on Apple and Pear exports. His ability and personality are such that Victoria will be worthily represented in her new Agent-General.

NEW RAILWAY COMMISSIONER IN VICTORIA.

Mr. N. Harris Appointed.

Mr. N. Harris, chief mechanical engineer, has been appointed a Railways Commissioner to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. W. M. Shannon. He is appointed for seven years, at a salary of £1,750 a year, less the financial emergency reduction.

Mr. Harris has a brilliant reputation as an engineer, and was awarded D.S.O. while on active service with the A.I.F. He is 46 years of age, and was educated at Scotch College, Melbourne, and the McGill University, Canada. He served his apprenticeship with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and was later employed on the technical staff of the company. In 1911 he joined the hydro-electric staff in Tasmania, and subsequently became a draftsman in the Victorian railways. He transferred later to the rolling stock branch, and in 1922 became assistant chief mechanical engineer.

The Government has decided to reappoint Mr. T. B. Molomby as a Railway Commissioner until the end of the year. During his service of fifty years in the Department, Mr. Molomby has specialised on transportation, and he is very popular throughout the service.

N.Z.'s third export grade is termed "good,"—but the average export of this grade is only 5 per cent.

RECIPROCAL TRADE WITH NEW ZEALAND.

Senator Massy Greene left Australia for New Zealand during March.

It is understood that the main reason for his visit is to convince the New Zealand Government that the embargo on New Zealand deciduous fruits was imposed at the instance of the Health Department, owing to danger of fire blight. The New Zealand Government has prohibited Australian fruit and vegetables from entering the Dominion. Accompanying Senator Massy Greene will be Mr. Ewan McKinnon, Director of the division of plant hygiene of the Federal Health Department.

Fiji's Trade.—For the year 1932, Fiji's trade increased 50 per cent. Exports for 1932 totalled £1,698,964, against £1,000,187 in the previous year. Imports decreased £72,168. The increase in Bananas amounted to £10,000.

The Secretary for Commerce, Mr. E. J. Mulvany, in a recent statement, emphasised that reciprocal trade had been made quite possible by the agreement reached at Ottawa between Australia and Fiji. Fiji has obtained the entry into Australia of a certain proportion of Bananas, and Fijian commercial houses are now more favorably disposed towards Australia. Mr. Mulvany added that it would be his Department's interest in fruit shipments to Fiji to see that the regulations regarding packing and quality were observed. Shippers would have to comply with these requirements just as had the shippers to the U.K. or overseas.

PERSONAL.

During March, Mr. J. L. Provan, research officer in regard to citriculture, visited Mildura and inspected various groves.

Messrs. G. F. Lush, A. L. Johnstone and J. P. Power were returned to the Board of Directors of the Mildura Co-operative Fruit Co. A poll was taken, as there were five nominations for three vacancies. Mr. Power was elected to fill the vacancy through the retirement of Mr. G. Hudson.

Mr. J. B. Murdoch, of Waikerie, South Australia, will be the representative in charge of the exhibit of Australian dried fruits on the "show boat," the s.s. "Nieuw Holland," which will leave Adelaide on April 8.

N.S.W. SCIENTISTS PROMOTED.

Messrs. C. J. P. Magee and F. C. McCleery, assistant biologists of the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture, have been promoted to the position of plant pathologists. Mr. Magee rendered good service in his work connected with the cause and cure of bunchy-top in Bananas, while Mr. McCleery is doing excellent work along the lines of controlling black spot of citrus, as well as various transit moulds and diseases of Oranges and Lemons.

The Ramco Branch of the Murray Citrus Association held its annual meeting on March 20, there being a fair attendance. Mr. H. Hunter was in the chair. The report and balance-sheet showed that the Society's activities for the year had been successful. Officers elected were:—Messrs. H. Hunter, J. Boehme, J. J. Odgers, W. Green and F. Lewis.

Obituary.

Sincere sympathy is felt for Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Willoughby, of Tyabb, in the death, through peritonitis, of their son Spencer Willoughby, aged seven years.

It is with regret that we announce that Mr. George Monro, Junr., the elder son of Major E. J. Monro, passed away on January 15. Mr. Monro, who was only 32 years of age, joined the firm of Messrs. George Monro Ltd., London, after the war.

Canada's Fruit Crop.—Canada's Apple crop this season will total 10,285,500 bushels, 1,093,656 bushels less than 1931. Other fruit crops will total:—Pears, 454,000 bushels; Peaches, 878,500 bushels; Plums and Prunes. 245,500 bushels.

During April, the full moon comes in on Monday, the 10th.

The opinion is frequently heard that instead of the Australian grade designations of "special," "standard," "plain," the terms should be in keeping with the rest of the world—"extra fancy," "fancy," and "good" (or C grade).

MANCHESTER.

The Editor, "The Fruit World," Melbourne, Vic.

Sir,—Up to the date of writing no allocation whatever of fruit tonnage has been made from Tasmanian or mainland ports to Manchester. This raises the question whether Australian shippers can afford to neglect that important market and distributing centre.

In your March issue (page 145), in an article referring to conditions in New Zealand, it is mentioned that the N.Z. Fruit Control Board has arranged that the marketing of their 1933 crop in Great Britain will be conducted through Messrs. J. & H. Goodwin, Manchester. I have been advised that the firm has, in turn, made arrangements for the use of the Ship Canal Company's cool storage accommodation at Manchester Docks, and require a considerable proportion of the fruit to be delivered at that port. In the November report, issued by the N.Z. Dairy Produce Board, it is stated:—"While London shipments have increased 50 per cent., it is gratifying that shipments to West Coast ports have increased by nearly 150 per cent. Manchester has now taken the lead so far as quantities are concerned, which would indicate the growing demand for New Zealand butter in the North." Similar conditions are, of course, applicable to other varieties of produce.

Between the 15/12/'32 and 16/1/'33 three shipments of produce from New Zealand ports to Manchester totalled 3,947 tons, which serves to indicate how rapidly trade between the Dominion and the Midlands and North of England is being developed via that route.

Unless facilities are also afforded for direct trade between Australia and that area, producers and shippers here will certainly be left behind in the present keen competition for overseas trade.

Yours, etc.,

Sydney.

Wm. Jno. Wade.

Things without remedy,
Should be without regard—what's done is done.

To follow foolish precedents, and wink
With both our eyes, is easier than to think.

Apple Varieties Raised in Tasmania

(6) Geeveston Fanny.

(By P. H. Thomas, Chief Horticulturist.)

ALTHOUGH THIS APPLE is grown commercially only in Southern Tasmania, being practically confined to the Geeveston district, some doubt exists in regard to its origin.

A variety under the same name is produced in America, of which many of the pomological characters described are similar, the most distinctive differences being in the calyx and basin.

The oldest known trees are growing in the orchard of the late Mr. James Evans, at Geeveston, and would now be approximately fifty years of age.

For some time the merits of the Apple were not recognised owing to the general smallness of the fruits, but, when thinning was carried out and one or two shipments of fruit tested on the markets, it was evident that the variety was above the average in quality.

The Apple also attracted attention during the year 1917, when black spot (*Venturia inaequalis*) was prevalent in Southern Tasmania, bearing crops of clean fruit when most other varieties were badly infected by the fungus.

Geeveston Fanny has been fairly extensively planted during recent years in southern districts. The tree is vigorous in growth and free from disease. The Apples are normally borne in small clusters, which need to be severely thinned in order to produce high quality fruits.

Geeveston Fanny is now exported to both overseas and mainland markets, where it is in popular demand owing to its attractive coloring and flavor. It is a good shipping variety and keeps well in cold storage.

Pomological Description.

Variety.—Geeveston Fanny.

Form.—Round; oblate; slightly flattened; uniform.

Size.—Small to medium.

Stem.—Medium length; slender; variable.

Cavity.—Deep; acute; medium breadth.

Calyx.—Large; open.

Lobes.—Medium length; broad; flattened; and divergent.

Basin.—Medium depth; wide; abrupt; furrowed.

Skin.—Thin; tough; smooth; waxy.

Color.—Ground color pale lemon-yellow, with bright red blush, distinctly splashed with carmine.

Dots.—Very few; small; obscure; greenish-grey color.

Flesh.—White, slightly tinged with yellow; firm; fine-grained; dry, crisp; sweet.

Quality.—Very good.

Core.—Small; sessile; open; nearly axile.

Carpels.—Broadly round; emarginate.

Seeds.—Large; wide; plump; obtuse.

Calyx Tube.—Urn-shaped.

Season.—April-June, extended to September in cold storage.

—“Tasmanian Journal of Agriculture.”

APPLES EXPORTED WITHOUT REFRIGERATION.

Interesting Tasmanian Experiment.

Messrs. Clements & Marshall Pty. Ltd., of Devonport and Launceston, Tasmania, sent a consignment of Tasmanian Apples in a non-refrigerated vessel from Hobart at the end of March. The vessel is to proceed directly to the Continent, probably calling at Port Said en route, where a limited quantity of fruit will be discharged, and thence direct to Rotterdam. The freight works out at approximately 3/1½ per box, Australian currency, to Rotterdam, which would be a saving of practically 1/- per box with the rate of between 4/0½ and 4/2 charged for refrigerated carriage.

Only approved varieties, such as Jonathans, Cleos., and Dunns are included, and if the fruit lands in good condition at Rotterdam, good payable prices are anticipated. Previously no boats taking fruit have made Rotterdam their port of discharge, and this should be an additional advantage. During the time the boat was in the tropics, the ship's crew will pay careful attention to the ventilation of the fruit.

Another consignment of 25,000 boxes was sent to Rotterdam direct by the motorship “Thermopylae,” loading at Hobart and Burnie on or about March 31. Two blast fans are being installed in the hold, and a suction plant will also be operated. In addition, meters to register the percentage of CO₂ in existence will help to guide the ship's officers in deciding on the necessity to increase ventilation.

Messrs. Clements and Marshall state they had received a radio message from the Commander of the “Djambi”



Geeveston Fanny Apple,
Showing method of pruning, fruiting, and general characteristics.

—Illustrations by courtesy Tas. “Journal of Agric.”

P.M.: “What makes you say the fruit they threw at you was bottled?”

Witness: “I felt the jar.”

carrying the first consignment in which he stated that the weather in the tropics is favorable to the good carriage of the Apples, and the full benefit of the southwestern monsoon is being secured.

APPLE AND PEAR EXPORT.

New Grade Standards in Tasmania.

IT was decided at a recent meeting of the Apples and Pears Standardisation Board, Hobart, to review the standards and regulations for the export of Apples and Pears to Australian markets. Certain amendments to existing regulations were made, and, in particular, the elimination of the plain grade which will take effect from March 30, 1933. This grade was introduced in the first place to provide for export throughout Australia, fruit that was slightly under overseas export standard, but such noticeable improvements have been made during recent years with fruit produced from properly supervised orchards, that it was considered this grade is now unnecessary. Crops throughout Tasmania this season are

generally of a high standard, and to compete with the other Apple-producing States, only the best quality fruit will be sent to the Australian markets.

The measurement in regard to Pear cases for the Australian trade has been amended, and Pear cases will measure 18 in. x 8½ in. x 11½ in. internal dimensions, with a limitation of the depth of trays to a maximum of 4 inches. Delicious variety has been deleted from the normally small varieties permitted in the standard grade down to 2 in. size diameter.

DRIED AND CANNED APPLES.

Tasmania Seeks Bounty.

Owing to shortage of oversea shipping space and the large crops of good quality, Tasmanian growers are faced with a large amount of waste of really good fruit which could be used to advantage in tins and in dried rings, and to prevent growers from suffering a loss on this trade the State Fruit Advisory Board of Tasmania has approached

Geeveston Fanny Apple.

Vertical and cross sections,
showing internal structure.

—Ilus. by courtesy Tas.
Journal of Agriculture.



the Prime Minister for assistance, and they are of the opinion that a good trade can be built up in canned Apples. This industry has never received assistance except in 1918 and 1919, when a small amount was allotted by the Government on dried fruit exported overseas to meet American competition. Since then it has been practically impossible to send dried Apples overseas. They have applied for a bounty of £20,000. This would permit of 6d. per 50 lb. bushel to allow the manufactured article to compete. It is submitted that the Apple industry can claim to be of great economic importance both to the Commonwealth and Tasmania.

TASMANIAN APPLES FOR EXPORT.

The Question of Maturity for Overseas Markets.

REPORTS RECEIVED FROM OVERSEAS markets indicate that in the past a number of consignments of Tasmanian Apples arrived in an immature condition and that sale prices have been depressed and markets affected thereby.

In addition, it has also been shown that picking maturity is definitely linked up with the development of bitter pit, a disease which is responsible for serious losses in the early shipments. In the interests of the fruit industry of the State, port inspectors have been instructed to reject consignments which do not comply with the regulation regarding maturity.

The Department of Agriculture has prepared a list of varieties with their optimum period of export, for the guidance of fruitgrowers, arranged in their suggested order of shipment. It is realised, of course, that varieties will differ in actual maturity according to the districts in which they are grown. The list is as follows:—

Variety.	Period of Shipment.
Gravenstein	Mid February
Worcester Pearmain	Mid February
Alexander	Late February
Alfriston	Late February
Prince Alfred	Early March
King Pippin	Early March
Duke of Clarence	Early March
Cox's Orange Pippin	Mid March
Ribston Pippin	Mid March
French Crab	Mid March
Jonathan	End March
Crows Egg	End March
Scarlet	Early April
Dunns	Early April
Cleopatra	Early April
Delicious	Mid April
Lalla	Mid April
Stone Pippin	End April
London Pippin	End April
Sturmer Pippin	Early May
Crofton	Mid May
Granny Smith	Mid May
Democrat	End May

Experiments are being made in America with cellophane as a wrap for vegetables. Trials have been made, using it as a wrap for Tomatoes, trimmed Cauliflower, Celery and Lettuce.

New Zealand Apples are all exported under one label, in comparison with the multitude of labels and brands from Australia.

Orchard Practice at Spreyton, Tas.

Cultivation: Manuring: Spraying.

Stationary Spray Plant to Be Installed.

Mr. T. M. Burns, orchardist, Spreyton, Tasmania, sends us the following interesting information:—

"I have a No. 8 Howard rotary hoe and do not think there is a better implement in the market for cultivating new or old ground. In addition to pulverising the soil, it chops up all greenstuff, and completely annihilates any troublesome grass, such as twitch or couch grass, when the ground is a bit dry, by shaking all the soil out of the roots.

"I have a very difficult orchard to work, owing to the short stem trees with horizontal branches. When I got the hoe first I used to have someone to hold up the limbs and follow the hoe through. I now have a sheet of 18 gauge flat iron, curved to fit over the top of the hoe, with a dip nose, and terminating at the end of steering handles. Now I set the hoe up to a tree, and, like a torpedo, it creeps through, and I walk around and straighten it up for the next tree. Sometimes I reave around the trees, passing one tree on the right side and the next on the left; this leaves scarcely any hand hoeing to be done, and makes a better job.

"I have a 9½-acre block, and can hoe it two ways—that is, cross-cut it—for a fuel cost of £2. I spread one ton of agricultural lime to the acre, and cultivate as soon as Apples are off, then let it stand until September. By this time it has a good coat of greenstuff, which I chop in with a little super and cultivate again in December, when the ground is dry, and after that I have more Apple trees than weeds. I broadcast 1½ lb. of sulphate of ammonia to the tree in month of September. This year I used 2 lb. of nitrate of soda per tree on one section of Dunns, and 1½ lb. of sulphate of ammonia on another section of same variety. No perceptible benefit can be seen on the nitrate of soda section; while the sulphate of ammonia section has a wonderful crop of big Apples. The season may have been too dry for nitrate of soda.

"For spraying I use Bordeaux, lime sulphur, arsenate of lead. This year I also sprayed with a dormant oil spray. For woolly aphis, red spider, and green grub, I did not receive any benefit from this. The manufacturers have evidently under-estimated the strength it should be used at. I find raw linseed oil brushed on the colonies of woolly aphis when they first appear 100 per cent. efficient. We have the insect *Aphelinus mali* in the district, which keep the aphis in check, and if they did not have so many stop-work meetings, they would soon clean up the aphis. The spray keeps the codlin moth within reasonable control, and if tree bandages are used as an auxiliary, not many Apples would be marked. Most Apples grown at Spreyton are sold under contract to the packing sheds, of which there are two.

"I have a very productive orchard, and picked 3,500 boxes last year. The crop is 1,000 boxes better this year. I intend to instal a stationary spraying plant this winter; this will effect a saving of £25 a year, which is worth while these times."

Couldn't Raise a Smile.

Photographer: "Now, try and look pleasant, please."
Bloggs: "Not on your life! This picture is for some relatives who want to come and stay a month with me."

The Commercial Processing of Apple Juice.

Important Investigations in U.S.A. ∴ Pasteurisation and Carbonisation Entirely Successful.

"Important Outlet for the Fruit Industry."

OF GREAT INTEREST to the fruit industry is the fact that methods have been perfected for the commercial processing of Apple juice. After long experiments, the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, has produced a sparkling, clear juice, devoid of sediment, having its natural fruity flavor, attractive to the eye and palate.

The results of their experiments are contained in a bulletin just to hand from this progressive experiment station. In this Bulletin, the production of carbonated Apple juice as an important outlet of the fruit juice industry, is described. The product is stated to be highly satisfactory and substantial public demand may be expected.

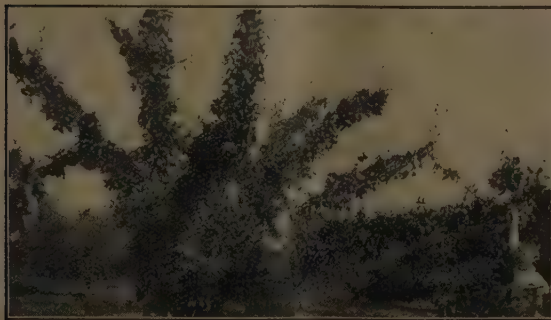
With the idea of finding a new commercial outlet for the tremendous Apple crop of New York State, U.S.A., special funds were voted in 1931 by the Legislature for experiments with by-products of fruits and vegetables. After specialising with Apples, a complete success has been attained.

It was clear to the investigators that if new commercial outlets for Apple juice were to be found, the juice must be processed so as to be more attractive than had been the case previously.

AT. T. M. BURNS' ORCHARD, SPREYTON, TAS.



Rotary Hoe working up close to the trees.



Delicious Apple tree (centre), Jonathan (right).
(See description on opposite page.)

The suspended material found in freshly pressed Apple juice was subjected to chemical analysis. The Apple juice was heated to 180 deg. F. for 20 seconds and cooled immediately and then filtered. Further filtration through the Seitz germ-proofing filter resulted in a sparkling clear juice that is sterile and can be filled into sterile containers for the market, or the juice may be carbonated to give an effervescent beverage.

Pasteurisation of Apple juice at 170 deg. F. for 20 minutes was found to give a sterile product of commercial value. In the Bulletin above referred to, the whole process is described in technical detail, pictures being shown of the equipment used.

Carbonated Apple Juice.

The carbonation of sparkling clear Apple juice is stated to be a very easy matter that involves few difficulties. The filtered juice is pumped into the carbonator and impregnated with carbon dioxide gas at whatever carbonation pressure is desired. The carbonated juice then passes through a pressure hose to the bottling machine, where it is bottled and capped under pressure. Upon opening and serving the carbonated juice, it effervesces for some time in the same way as do the higher grades of ginger ale, etc. Carbonation of Apple juice is a great asset in bringing out the flavor of the juice and producing a pleasing beverage.

Carbonated Apple juice was submitted to over 100 people for report. It is gratifying to note that with all the varieties submitted to this test, over 80 per cent. of the persons reporting considered carbonated Apple juice equal to or better than ginger ale. Considering the enormous annual sales of ginger ale in this country, the above facts indicate a ready market for carbonated Apple juice.

* * * * *

The foregoing information is of very great interest and importance to assist the fruit industry, and it is hoped that this matter will be vigorously followed up in order to ensure a profitable outlet for the surplus Apples which are produced in seasons of heavy supply.

CONSUMPTION OF ORANGES.

The Victorian Central Citrus Association calculates that the consumption of Oranges in Australia is 30 lb. per head, as compared with 23.25 a head in the United States. The increase is due to six years of intensive propaganda, the publicity work of the Railways Department, and the sale of citrus drinks at railway and other refreshment places.

The production of Oranges has increased from 1,800,000 bushels in 1916-17 to the present average crop of around 4,000,000 bushels. The largest producing State is N.S.W.

CONSUMPTION OF FRUIT DRINKS IN U.S.A.

According to a report issued by the California Fruit-growers' Exchange, the fountain drink industry in United States last year consumed 6,150,000 boxes of Oranges, or 13.7 per cent. of the total Orange supply. Lemons consumed in the same way in 1931 totalled over 940,000 boxes, or 15.5 per cent. of the total supply.

During the past five years sales of fresh Orange and Lemon drinks have increased 68.2 per cent., and 16.6 per cent. of all drinks sold are made from fresh fruit.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

FRUIT CROPS IN N.S.W.

Apples—Citrus—Bananas—Passion Fruit.

THE New South Wales State Marketing Bureau reported recently as follows:—Inland—Rain urgently needed in many localities as crops have failed to size; 50 per cent. of the Apple and Pear crop in the Bathurst district is hail damaged, whilst damage was also occasioned in the Young centre. Fair to heavy yields of Apples are expected, particularly in the Irrigation Area, and harvesting is proceeding. Packing for export is going forward at Goulburn and Young.

Citrus.—Coastal—Hot winds have reduced soil moisture, and most crops require early rain. Good development has taken place in river orchards in the Windsor-Richmond district.

Bananas.—Some useful rains and thunderstorms, accompanied by rain, occurred in a number of growing centres on the North Coast, with a consequent stimulation of crop growth. Crops, generally, are now in need of rain. Fair to good yields of Bananas are indicated in the Lismore and Brunswick centres, but fruit is expected to be on the small side. At Coffs Harbor the dry weather has not affected maturing fruit materially, but fruit ready to cut has been damaged extensively. Heat losses in this locality approximate 20 per cent. Medium supplies of fair to good quality fruit are being marketed from the Clarence. Slightly heavier harvesting is taking place at Murwillumbah, but it is still not up to the average owing to dry weather; 28,316 cases were consigned from this centre during February.

The harvesting of the main summer crop of Pineapples is proceeding in the Brunswick and Murwillumbah centres. The crop in the former area is heavy. In the Lismore locality there are indications of a good crop of "smooth-leaved" during March and April.

The bulk of the Passion Fruit crop has been harvested from the North Coast. Harvesting around Sydney is almost finished, but rain is required to assist blossoming for winter crop.

CHERRIES SENT TO JAVA.

Successful Shipment from Young, N.S.W.

AN EXPERIMENTAL CONSIGNMENT of Cherries left the Young district last November for Java, and word has been received that the consignment was a success. Part of the consignment consisted of approximately 100 quarter-cases carefully packed in 1 lb. punnets, which were made up into crates. The shipment realised profitable prices. The varieties St. Margaret and Florence carried very well.

The fruit was purchased by Mr. A. E. Smart, of Sydney. Mr. Smart supplied the punnets and crates. The packing was particularly well done with wood wool between each punnet, and wood wool and greaseproof paper between each layer of six in a crate. There were 24 punnets to a crate, equalling two quarter-cases and 19 additional punnets uncrated.

Mr. H. Broadfoot, of the Department of Agriculture, states the shipment was a fine success. It is evident that there is a market for Cherries anywhere in the East.

Young.—Mr. H. Glasson, manager for N.S.W. for Pater-son & Co. Ltd., of London, Perth, Adelaide, and Sydney, expects his firm to handle about 25 per cent. of the total output of the Young (N.S.W.) district. The Apple crop is up to expectations. The quality is good everywhere. Mr. Glasson declares that export has been the salvation of growers this year.

Young.—The fruit industry at Young is of considerable importance, and one estimate places the gross receipts from fruit in a year at £131,250 gross. This total is made up somewhat as follows:—Prunes are worth about £46,750; Apples, £51,000; Cherries, £25,000; Grapes, Nectarines and Peaches, say, £5,000; Almonds, £1,000; Plums, £500. It is quite possible that in a year like the present the fruit produced will realise as much as £150,000.

N.S.W. Apples, Pears and Plums Exported.—The P. & O. Branch liner "Barrabool," which left recently for England, carries a large consignment of Apples, Pears and Plums from the Orange (N.S.W.) district to the English market, all bearing distinctive uniform labels. The number of cases for export this season from that centre is approximately 17,000 cases Apples, 7,000 cases Pears, and 7,600 quarter-cases Plums.

Plums for England.—500 cases of Apples and 5,600 quarter-cases of Plums were despatched for shipment to England by the Orange Producers' Rural Co-operative Society during the second week in March. If the experiment is a success, it may be the means of relieving the Australian markets in the future. The Plums were packed under the supervision of Mr. D. Atkins, District Fruit Inspector of the Department of Agriculture, and the varieties were President, Grand Duke, with a small quantity of Pond's Seedling.

ORCHARD HEATING IN N.S.W.

Batlow Growers Consider Installing Heaters.

AS A RESULT of late or exceptionally severe frosts, Batlow orchardists are inquiring into the practice of orchard heating, and the Director of Fruit Culture in N.S.W. (Mr. C. G. Savage), who toured Canada and the U.S.A. recently, attended a meeting at Batlow and discussed the matter with growers. Illustrations were shown of the heating of Pear orchards in the Rogue River Valley at Medford, Oregon, Walnut groves in the Sacramento Valley, and citrus groves in Riverside, California.

Mr. Savage stated that in Medford it was necessary to heat the Pear orchards from four to six times, according to the season. The cost to growers was about £12 an acre annually, with a cheap form of oil. The greater cost of oil in N.S.W. would make it more expensive, and it would be necessary to construct large storage tanks to hold the oil in reserve. Many Batlow growers consider that even with the higher cost the expenditure would be justified in saving crops from frost.

Green Manuring.—The N.S.W. Department of Agriculture have been carrying out experiments in the provision of organic matter for orchards, and have demonstrated with several varieties of Peas, Vetches, Lupins and Beans for green manuring, and the purple Vetch was the best variety, and has always produced a satisfactory crop.

The woolly-podded and golden Vetches are only slightly less satisfactory than the purple. The cost of the last-

named is slightly higher than other varieties, but it is considered that a sowing of not more than 15 lb. to 20 lb. per acre would be sufficient, using superphosphate at the rate of 1 cwt. to the acre. Seasonal conditions have affected uniform results with varieties of Beans and Peas.

SEMI-TROPICAL FRUITS AT GRAFTON, N.S.W.

At the Grafton (N.S.W.) Experiment Farm, grafted Mango trees from Rarotonga (Cook Island), are making good headway. Seedlings of many varieties raised from seed obtained in Queensland and N.S.W. are also developing satisfactorily, one variety being a very attractive color, free from fibre and a beautiful flavor.

Pineapples show that the mulched plants grow more rapidly and produce greater quantities of earlier fruit than those unmulched, beside effecting a great saving in cultivation.

Custard Apples are being grown, and one variety in particular—Pink's Prolific—has shown itself suitable to the district. The Avocado or Alligator Pear is receiving careful attention, and the Fuerte variety is proving successful. Australian (Macadamia) and Pecan nuts are also being tested out and investigations are being made as to propagation methods.

Tests are being carried out with citrus fruits of new strains and varieties to find their suitability to the Clarence River District.

The methods of pruning, selection, cross-breeding, and control of Passion Fruit, are being watched, and it has been found that where the vines were sprayed with Bordeaux mixture at monthly intervals, brown spot disease had been controlled with success.

CITRUS CROPS IN VICTORIA.

Citrus crops are light to medium, and the fruit is swelling quickly, and if its present rate of development is maintained, large sizes will be general this season, states the Victorian Department of Agriculture.

Scale control has been rigidly enforced during the past two months, and this should ensure a high percentage of clean fruit.

Summer Lemons have been scarce, and have commanded prices remunerative to the growers who were fortunate to have supplies.

Citrus growers who have been troubled with infection of Anthracnose or Septoria spotting in the past are again advised to take preventive measures during March, April and May. Spraying with a combined Bordeaux 3.3.50 and white oil 1½ per cent. spray will check the incidence of these fungi.

Applications now of white oil sprays at a strength of 2 per cent. will be found beneficial in controlling black and soft brown scale.

Oranges for Export.—Mr. J. A. Parkes, Secretary of the Federal Citrus Council, recently stated that it was not advisable to cool store Washington Navels for more than five weeks, also that from an export point of view, Australia appeared to be limited to ports of not more than three weeks' steaming distance. From this, it would appear that exports to the U.K. must be restricted to late Valencia. The East so far has proved to be a limited market.

Citrus Crop Forecast in N.S.W.

Navels Heavier; Valencia, Commons, also Lemons, Lighter.

SPECIAL REPORTS relative to the condition and prospective yield of main crop citrus fruits in the principal producing centres of the State have been supplied to the N.S.W. Director of Marketing by Fruit Inspectors (Field Officers of the Department of Agriculture), and citrus growers acting in the capacity of honorary crop correspondents. The co-operation of the honorary crop correspondents in this work is highly esteemed.

Compared with last season, Navels are expected to show a slightly increased total yield. This is accounted for largely by additional trees coming into bearing, principally on irrigation areas. Generally in coastal districts, prospective yields are not expected to approximate those of last season.

The outlook is for lower production in Valencias, Common Oranges and Lemons; on the other hand, Mandarins give promise of exceeding last season's yield.

It should be noted that the forecast refers to yields at present in sight. Any adverse conditions which may arise between now and completion of harvesting will, of course, be likely to affect production.

Oranges—	Bushels.	Bushels.
Navels	850,000	
Valencias	925,000	
Common, and others	410,000	
		2,185,000
Mandarins		600,000
Lemons		290,000
		3,075,000

District Reports.

Wiseman's Ferry.—Valencias and Commons have cropped very patchily, varying from light to medium; a fairly heavy crop of Sevilles in sight. Both Lemons and Mandarins are carrying medium crops.

Seven Hills.—Valencias on old trees are small, but on young and hard pruned trees the fruit is of better quality. This also applies to Mandarins; Common Oranges developing satisfactorily.

The Hills District.—Early rainfall needed; prospects of both Navels and Valencias have been reduced as a result of heavy shedding during December and January. Mandarins generally satisfactory. Main crop of Lemons light.

Gosford.—Generally dry and hot conditions have prevailed during February, and rain would now be beneficial. The Navel crop appears to be below average. Generally, young Valencia trees have set good crops, but old trees are patchy. The area under Common Oranges is decreasing. Many growers have removed the trees from their groves. In the Terrigal centre, Joppas are stated to have set good crops. Mandarins are reported to be falling badly in places. Production is on the decline, many trees being dug out. The Lemon crop prospects variable.

Kurrajong.—Good rains during late January and the following hot weather have been suitable to most groves. There was a fairly heavy shedding of Navels during December. Generally trees are carrying light crops. Valencias are expected to give better yields than Navels.

The fruit is well grown and in some groves no intermediate crop is carried. Exceptional development is apparent in some of the Common Orange crops, but these trees (also Sevilles) are being removed from the groves of some growers as they are considered unremunerative. The Lemon crop is variable. Sevilles have set well in the Central Colo locality.

Penrith.—The splendid rains during early February were followed by hot weather. Trees damaged by frost during last winter are now showing marked improvement. Navels showing medium. Valencias light. Commons medium. Early Mandarins promise light to medium yields. Emperor Mandarins and Lemons are scarce.

Orangeville.—Navels shed heavily following the January rains and are now carrying medium crops. Aged Val. trees are carrying heavy crops of fruit, young trees very light. Joppas heavy, other Commons medium. Lemons light. Mandarins medium.

Windsor-Richmond.—Generally very light crops of all varieties of citrus fruit have set on trees damaged by frost during last winter, but good crops are in sight in the more sheltered locations, particularly in river groves. The fruit generally has made very satisfactory development and promises to be larger than last year.

Bulga.—A severe hailstorm in the Millrodale centre on January 23 last is stated to have ruined all citrus fruit. Both Navels and Valencias did not set any fruit owing to the dry conditions of 1932. Both varieties of trees are now in bloom.

Moorland.—Droughty conditions prevail. All varieties of citrus light.

Dubbo.—Weather dry and hot, crops light.

Forbes.—About 140 points of rain fell in this centre during early February. This was followed by hot, dry and windy weather which caused rapid evaporation of soil moisture. Groves look well on irrigated land, but on unirrigated areas, Val. trees are beginning to show the effects of the dry conditions. Navels, Common Oranges and Mandarin trees have set good crops of fruit.

Narromine.—Conditions very dry throughout January and February, but no damage caused to trees or fruit. Navels carrying a good average crop. Val. and Commons light. Lemons failure: trees are recovering from the frost damage of June last. Grape Fruit light.

Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area.—Prospects are now better than was anticipated earlier in the season for both Navels and Valencias. Navels are carrying medium, and in some instances, good crops of fruit, whilst Valencias generally are only light to medium.

REWORKING MANDARINS TO VALENCIA.

Mr. A. Bruce, Merbein, observed an Early Imperial Mandarin tree showing signs of deterioration, and an examination was made by Mr. J. L. Provan, research officer of the Department of Agriculture. The tree was grafted on to citronelle stock, and it was thought that the tree had become root-bound. Mr. Provan concluded that with that nature of grafting the stock had a tendency to outgrow the scion and that interfered with the production. Mr. Provan stated that up to ten years, early Mandarins on that class of stock bore well, but after that time deteriorated and a re-working to late Valencias was advocated.—"Sunraysia Daily."

A new Orange has been introduced into the Gulf Coast region of the United States from Japan, and it is called the Satsuma Orange. In a warm climate the early ripening strain grows vigorously and produces heavy crops with better shipping qualities than it does in Japan.

PINK LEMONS PUZZLE SCIENCE.

AMONG HUNDREDS OF TREES in a Burbank, California, Lemon grove stands one freak tree which has the scientists guessing. This tree, unlike those about it, has on its branches Lemons that are distinctly pink in color. The rind of the fruit is pink. The flesh is pink and the juice is the same pretty color. If Lemons of this curious kind could be developed in quantity, it would be possible to supply circus patrons with genuine pink lemonade.

How the pink Lemons happened is a mystery, because there is no evidence that Mother Nature ever intended to make Lemons anything but yellow.

The tree itself is an unusual freak. Its trunk and its branches look, from a distance, much like the trunk and the branches of the familiar Eureka Lemon, but a close study of the tree reveals that its bark is striped and that some of the limbs are bright green and others are white. These white limbs have yet to produce a Lemon, pink or otherwise.

Scientists who have tried to trace the origin of the odd tree are convinced that it would be practically impossible to use this tree as the parent for a new and unusual species of Lemon. In other words, they see little chance for making nature turn out pink Lemons in quantity. It is their guess that the one tree that is unlike any other Lemon tree in the country, and perhaps in the whole world, is the freak offspring of a freak parent.—"Los Angeles Examiner."

CITRUS CULTURE IN NEW ZEALAND.

Hints for April.

WHERE FRESH PLANTINGS are contemplated, every consideration should be given to some of the important features that make for success.

Shelter.—Without adequate shelter it is not advisable to consider planting out citrus trees of any kind. They always come away much quicker and make more definite progress in warm, sheltered positions; strong winds from any direction always have a retarding effect. Trees that come away quickly and respond to manurial and cultural treatment give a pleasure to the owner, besides assuring him of quicker returns. Unless plenty of good shelter is available, defer planting out for a while or until shelter is well established.

Soil Conditions.—This factor also plays a very important part in citrus culture. Only well-drained land lying well to the sun should be selected. Citrus trees will thrive on various kinds of soil, providing all other conditions are satisfactory. Growers should always plan well in advance when new plantings are to be undertaken. The preliminary preparation should never be overlooked and the soil should be worked up beforehand sufficiently long to allow it to sweeten. Land broken up out of the rough and planted is not conducive to the best results. Extra time and care in the preparation is well spent, and the owner will be well repaid when he sees the results.

Selection of Trees.—This is a point that should not be overlooked. Trees that are indifferent or stunted should be strictly avoided; it would be preferable to wait another season than to plant out trees that are unsatisfactory. Young, healthy, well-grown trees should be procured, even if the cost should appear too great. A little extra invested in this way will eventually bring its own reward. —L. Paynter, Orchard Instructor, in "N.Z. Journal of Agriculture."

VISITOR FROM NEW ZEALAND.

Mr. C. Higgs, of Mapua, N.Z., Visits Australia on His Way to London.

Interesting Notes and Comparisons in Export and Local Trade.

IT WAS A PLEASURE to meet Mr. C. Higgs, of Mapua, Nelson district, New Zealand, who visited Australia towards the end of March to join the s.s. "Barrabool" on a visit to the Old Country. Mr. Higgs is a well-known fruitgrower at Mapua.

Prior to coming to Victoria, he spent a pleasant time in Southern Tasmania, and was shown every courtesy by Mr. F. H. Peacock, managing director of Henry Jones and Co. Pty. Ltd. At Geeveston and Franklin, Mr. Higgs saw orchards reputed to be from 40 to 100 years old. While appreciating both the quality and quantity of fruit and the recent improvement in grading, Mr. Higgs is of the opinion that further improvements in grading and packing would be of great value to Tasmanian growers and the industry as a whole. He noted the "standard" grade was the one most generally adopted, the top grade, "special," being scarcely used at all. Even in the "standard" grade there was a variation of quality. Mr. Higgs states that in New Zealand the three grades are "extra fancy," "fancy" and "good,"—extra fancy being the nominally equivalent to the Australian special. From New Zealand four cases of the extra fancy would be sent to every two of fancy, while the third grade, known as "good" (similar to "plain" in Australia) would average about 5 per cent.

It was anticipated that about 1,000,000 cases of Apples and Pears will be exported this season. The principal Apple varieties exported from New Zealand are Sturmer, Jonathan, Delicious, C.O.P., Dunns and Statesman. Further, in New Zealand, color grading is adopted, particularly for the extra fancy variety.

Only one Export Label.

Mr. Higgs noted the multiplicity of labels and brands in Tasmania and Victoria. In export from New Zealand, all the Apples are sent away under one label. At the end of each case is placed the standardised New Zealand label. This label shows Apples in the left-hand corner, the design for the "extra fancy" grade being a blue ribbon running through red Apples. In addition, the label shows the grower's registered number (in N.Z. every orchardist is registered). The Canadian type of

case is used, the timber being white softwood, much of which is locally-grown *Pinus insignis*.

Mr. Higgs, when in England, will observe the marketing of New Zealand fruit through the recognised trade channels, also the methods of increasing the sale and consumption of New Zealand fruit through representatives of the Control Board visiting retailers.

Experimental Orchard.—Mr. Higgs spoke in terms of appreciation of the experimental orchard which is being conducted at Moutere Hills. He states that much valuable investigational work is being carried out there.

Pooling.—Apples are pooled according to variety into sizes and designations known as A, B, C, D;—A-96 to 125 Apples to the case; B—intermediate; C—150 to 175; D—smaller. These sizes are indicated by colored stickers placed on the cases, which are of great value when sorting. There is a definite date for the opening and closing of the pools for the various varieties.

In company with Mr. Higgs, a representative of the "Fruit World" paid a visit to the s.s. "Barrabool," at Port Melbourne. There were also present Messrs. C. Parnham (fruit exporter), and C. Cole (fruit inspector). Mr. Higgs noted the system of inspection of fruit on the open wharves, in which connection he could not help comparing this with the organised inspection under covered sheds at the New Zealand ports. However, this visitor was very interested and pleased to know that the bulk of the inspection of fruit for export was done in the country districts. While aboard the "Barrabool," specimens of Jonathan Apples were sampled; these proved to be of excellent quality, firm, crisp and of rich flavor.

DOMINION MARK.

A new and interesting feature has been introduced to assist in increasing the sales of New Zealand fruit on local markets. The export standard grades of "extra fancy" and "fancy" are used, and boxes of fruit which achieve this standard are entitled to have the Dominion mark placed on the cases. This Dominion mark is really a label covering almost one end of the case and stating the fruit is true to grade under the authority of the New Zealand Fruitgrowers' Federation. These labels are issued to growers at 1d. each, and the funds thus raised enable propaganda to be conducted to increase the sales. The report so far to hand indicates that the scheme has been well received, and the Dominion mark fruit receives 1/- per case premium. It is understood this system is along the lines of the "Skookum" brand of excellence adopted on the North-west Pacific Coast, U.S.A.

Under the Dominion brand, it is not possible to market the third grade known as "good." These Apples can still be marketed, but not under the authorised brand.

The idea of Dominion mark is to help both the wholesaler and retailer. Inspectors examine the fruit in the markets or elsewhere, and where necessary, can exert their authority in de-grading the fruit, i.e., lowering its nominal standard, where justified. The scheme is entirely voluntary, and has the goodwill of a large number of growers, also the growers' organisations and Government authorities.

Mr. Higgs displayed specimens of the posters, streamers and recipe booklet, printed as a result of the funds raised by the sale of Dominion mark labels. These were very interesting.



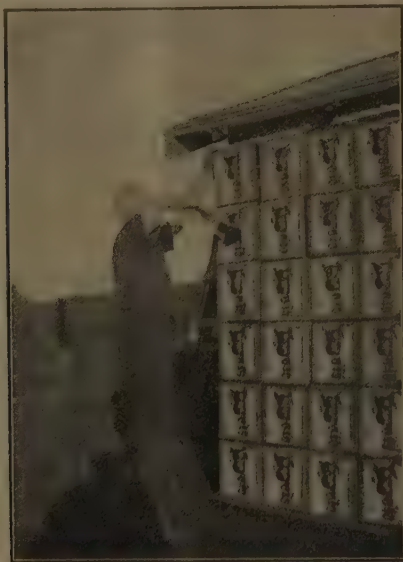
Orchard scene at Mapua, New Zealand.

NEW ZEALAND.

In a survey of the local markets, the "Orchardist of New Zealand" states that during last February quantities of stone fruits available resulted in a small demand for Apples. Experience gained in handling Gravensteins has indicated where best results have been obtained and "Dominion Mark" fruit will only be distributed among a smaller number of operators, thus better results should be realised in future. "Dominion Mark" fruit in the Wellington market has realised 3/- to 4/-; sometimes good lines have brought more. The average price has been 5/- for extra good lines, while good colored stuff has brought 6/-, and in the earlier part of the season up to 8/6. With Cox's Orange Pippin it has been decided to restrict early shipments, and indications from the South are that the opening price for C.O.P. of good sizes and color would be 10/- to 12/-. For cooking Apples the market is dull, and it is difficult to get 4/- to 4/6 in Wellington for Dunn's.

The demand for "Dominion Mark" is increasing, and buyers are prepared to pay the 1/- per case premium.

Early sales of New Zealand C.O.P. Apples in London this season realised the equivalent of 31/6 in N.Z. money.



Rapid pasting of labels at orchard of Mr. C. Higgs, Mapua, N.Z.

FORESTRY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

A further grant of £20,000 is being made available by the South Australian Government for afforestation purposes, near Mt. Gambier, in the south east, thus giving employment to 225 men planting and clearing the area for some months to come.

Borrow trouble for yourself, if that's your nature, but don't lend it to your neighbor.—Kipling.

Content is the greatest bliss we can procure. Without it kings are poor.—Albert Ramsay.

Manners must adorn knowledge and smooth its way through the world.—Earl of Chesterfield.

N.Z. FRUIT EXPORTS.

At a meeting of the N.Z. Fruit Export Control Board in Wellington, N.Z., the following dates were fixed for the closing of pools:—

Nelson and Motueka.—Statesman, April 22; Sturmer, April 22 and 30. Mapua.—Statesman, April 15; Sturmer, April 15 and 30.

Pooling arrangements are:—South American fruit will be pooled on its own; fruit shipped to Canada and France will be included in the same set of pools, and fruit to the U.K. and Continent will be pooled together, but will not include special fruit to France, which forms portion of the Canadian-France pool. In all instances pooling will be conducted according to variety, size and grade. The extra fancy Delicious forwarded to France will form part and parcel of the Canadian-France Dominion pool. Fruit for France must be free of San Jose scale.

Messrs. J. & H. Goodwin have offered to pool the A sizes separately. This in no way affects pool accounts kept in N.Z. The U.K.-Continental pools will not be Dominion pools, but by districts similar to arrangements last season.

The Government guarantee has been revised, and rates are 10/6 and 7/-. Under the former there will be a cash advance of 3/3 per case made at time of shipment. It is a condition of the Government guarantee that all growers accepting this will agree to a deduction of 1½d. per case, which will be placed to the credit of a central fund to meet guarantee claims.

NEW APPLE VARIETY.

A new variety of Apple has recently come under observation in New Zealand. This has been developed by several growers in the Oratia area, and is a sport from the Albany Beauty, or improved Gravenstein, and was originally discovered and registered by Mr. M. Glucina.

Trees worked with scions from the sport have thrown true to type and have fruited very well. The appearance and flavor are distinctly good, and there is prospect of the new variety being quite good for the earlier local markets. It is reported that small parcels marketed during the past month realised upwards of 10/- per case.

NEW VARIETIES OF APPLES.

Cross Pollination in U.S.A.

THE Horticultural Department of the Iowa State College (U.S.A.), have some very promising new seedling Apples which are described as follows:—

The "Sharon" (McIntosh x Longfield), is an excellent nursery tree and a strong vigorous grower. Few varieties can equal it for foliage. The fruit hangs well.

"Secor" (Salome x Jonathan), when once established, grows rapidly and bears early. The fruit hangs well, and is free from Jonathan spot, and keeps about two months later than Jonathan.

"Joan" (Anisim x Jonathan) is the most productive annual cropper. The fruit is well spaced throughout the tree and hangs until fully mature. Although the quality is not very high, its good size and excellent color recommends it.

"Patten 1050" (Delicious x Patten Greening).—This is a large size with good red color. The quality is not equal to Delicious, but it is a good Apple when it softens.

Australian Apple and Pear Export.

Interesting Review by Mr. J. B. Mills.

Export Improvements Suggested: Opinions of British Trade.

AS A RESULT of his investigations when in England, Mr. J. B. Mills, President of the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council, presented some interesting information to the Council at its recent meeting.

Questions were submitted to the trade in London, in the form of a questionnaire, and the questions and answers are given hereunder, the answers being the consensus of the views expressed.

(1) **Consumptive Power of Markets.**—What do you consider the normal consumptive power of the U.K. markets to be for Apples (weekly) at reasonably payable prices?

Answer.—During most of the year we consider the equivalent of 250,000 to 300,000 boxes weekly can be placed on the market and return satisfactory prices. By "satisfactory prices" we mean averages between 10/- and 12/- per box for good varieties. We have noted that prices over 12/- per box will check consumption before very long. During the latter half of June, July and August, when plenty of soft fruits are usually available, it is considered that 200,000 to 250,000 boxes weekly would be sufficient to supply the needs of the U.K. markets.

(2) **Wider Distribution in U.K.**—Do you consider that wider distribution of Australian Apples through U.K. markets outside London would be advantageous?

Answer.—We have for many years considered that a wider distribution of Australian Apples throughout the U.K. markets would be advantageous, especially we believe that Cardiff and Glasgow should be able to handle to advantage considerably more than they now receive. During the winter months, Cardiff is a large receiver of American and Canadian Apples, which are very popular in the Welsh mining districts. Glasgow is the third largest receiver port of American and Canadian Apples, and is virtually the only fruit port in Scotland. Although Liverpool and Hull already dispose of quite material quantities of Australian fruit, yet we think their quantities might also be increased to the benefit of the shipper. The suggested ports, therefore, are:—London, Liverpool, Hull, Cardiff, Glasgow, Manchester, Southampton.

(3) **Auction or Private Treaty.**—What method of salesmanship would you recommend at the different ports, i.e., private treaty and/or auction selling? If recommending both methods, state percentage of use of each.

Answer.—We would recommend the auction selling methods only in all ports with the exception of London. We would also recommend auction selling in Spitalfields, but we realise that the private treaty salesmen in Covent Garden and elsewhere have created an important outlet for Australian fruit. We think, therefore, it will be necessary to divide shipments to London for the next year or two, at any rate, equally between private treaty and auction brokers.

(4) **Limitation of Receivers.**—What is your opinion of the suggestions now being considered to limit the number of receivers in London and other selling ports; if favoring limitation, state number you would suggest for each port and the benefits you consider should be gained by this policy.

Answer.—The elimination of a number of sellers in London and other ports would be an advantage on the basis of the greater the concentration, the better the results.

(5) **Canadian Case Preferred.**—As Australia is being requested by the shipping companies to adopt a uniform type of case, at least for each Australian port, what case would you favor for Apples, i.e., Australian dump or Canadian type?

Answer.—The Canadian type is preferable.

(6) **Counts Preferred to Sizes.**—What form of packing would you recommend, viz.: counts, size, or both?

Answer.—Counts, especially for Pears.

(7) **Corrugated Paper for Packing.**—Do you recommend use of woodwool or corrugated cardboard or clean packing as at present?

Answer.—Corrugated cardboard.

(8) **Best Package for Pears.**—The same difficulty with shipping companies has occurred with regard to the Pear package as with Apples, only more so. At present we are using for shipments from Australia the following type of cases:—Australian dump case, Australian half dump case, Canadian $\frac{1}{2}$ case (same as California), flat bushel with division in centre and three trays cleated together to equal size of Australian dump type. Of the above, what type would you recommend?

Answer.—There is no doubt that some of the most important Pear buyers prefer the Canadian white-wood box—the $\frac{1}{2}$ case.

(9) **Limitation of Cargoes.**—Is there anything you could suggest with regard to our shipping programmes, i.e., do you favor limitation of cargoes for discharge at individual ports? State maximum quantity.

Answer.—The limitation of cargoes for discharge at individual ports is recommended, and the maximum cargo should not exceed 100,000 packages in one boat for the United Kingdom. It has been noted that the best conditions pertain to cargoes of 40,000 to 60,000 packages.

(10) **Better Handling in London.**—Can you suggest anything that could be done by Australian shippers to assist in obtaining better handling in discharge of ships at London?

Answer.—It should be possible for one chamber to be allocated to each port, which would eliminate the necessity of frequent openings of each chamber, with the consequent detrimental effect upon the cargo. It is suggested that Tilbury Dock be avoided, as the fruit is discharged over-side to lighters and for railing, which entails extra handling and delay. If it is not possible to eliminate Tilbury, a reduction in freight should be obtained to cover the damage attached to these cargoes through double handling and delays in delivery.

(11) **Undesirable Publicity.**—What is your opinion of the effect on the trade of the publicity so widely given us to the arrivals and expected arrivals of Australian Apples in U.K. ports, and the conditions of the fruit on arrival? Who is responsible for this publicity?

Answer.—The publicity mentioned emanates from the Empire Marketing Board and is not advantageous from the selling point of view.

(12) **Continuity of Advertising.**—Do you think that as a result of the Ottawa Conference discussion the necessity for advertising will still be important, and are you of the opinion that the advertising of Australian Apples as at present conducted is effective? Can you suggest any improvement? Is the amount contributed sufficient or should the levy on shipments be increased?

Answer.—We do not think that the duties imposed by the Ottawa Conference on non-Empire fruit will diminish the need for effective advertising. We think that in past seasons the advertising has been efficiently carried out, and although personally perhaps, advertisements of fruit are liable to be called to our attention more than others, yet we can certainly state that posters and show-cards seem widely distributed, at any rate, in the London area. Regarding the improvements in advertising and the sufficiency or not of the amount contributed, we are afraid this is beyond our scope and is a technical subject for the advertising experts.

(13) **Elimination of "Plain" Grade.**—Do you think that the industry would be benefited by the elimination of the "plain" grade altogether, or should we be guided by the quality of Apples available for export as to whether this quality should go forward, as for instance, in a season of short crops?

Answer.—We consider that the plain grade should be eliminated.

An additional point which might be conveyed to shippers to their advantage is that London requires medium size dessert Apples, but North Britain has a better demand for 2½ in. dessert and upwards. This does not apply to culinary Apples.

It is also suggested that better supervision of goods shipped should be obtained on the lines of the Government certificate which applies to shipments of American Apples.

Covent Garden.—With Mr. Stevens (Commerce Dept.), Mr. McCann (South Australia), Mr. Plunkett (Australia House), I visited Covent Garden and its purlieus on many occasions, our object being to get, if possible, a uniform verdict on many questions affecting our industry, and the result is set out in the questionnaire. The time for our visit was probably the best that could have been arranged; the trade had just gone through a gruelling Apple season—they were frank in the extreme and had no hesitation in expressing their views, but out of the welter of criticism, one fact was noticeable, viz.—that the quality of all Australian fruit is excellent. Covent Garden and its surroundings have practically become a private treaty centre, the auctions being of minor importance as compared with a few years ago.

Liverpool.—At the invitation of the Liverpool Fruit Brokers' Assn. Ltd., I attended their salerooms on October 26, and it was apparent that Liverpool offers excellent facilities for the sale of Australian fruit, the chief thing being a regular supply. We discussed all phases of the industry and, generally speaking, larger sizes are marketable in Liverpool than in London. The matter of regular steamship service is receiving attention, and there is now very little doubt, but that a regular fortnightly service from Australia will be available to this important centre, and it is to be hoped growers will take full advantage of these facilities.

Shipping.—I attended many meetings of the Conference Line in London, both with Mr. Tout, the Australian chairman of the A.O.T.A., and Mr. Osborne, the Dairy Produce Representative. The questions dealt with were the arrival of ships, the better distribution of fruit to the United Kingdom ports, possible reduction in freight, uniform basis of guarantee for Pear shipments and extension of the export season.

With regard to the wider distribution of fruit, this matter is now receiving serious consideration, and there is every reason to believe that at least a regular fortnightly service will be available to shippers who desire to take advantage of the west coast ports.

Pear Guarantee.—This matter was discussed with the

company, which in the past has been insistent upon the unconditional guarantee, and there is every reason to believe that this company will now fall into line on a uniform basis of guarantee with the other companies.

Empire Marketing Board's Publicity.—I had a number of interviews with the Empire Marketing Board relative to the publicity that is given to the estimated forecasts of Australian shipments. This Board is anxious to do everything possible to meet the requirements of the trade, and it could be arranged that, in the future, such publicity as is given to the exports of Australian fruit will be qualified in such a way as to indicate shipments would not be in excess of the market requirements. In the past, unqualified publication of the estimated total exports has undoubtedly had a depressing effect upon the trade, and whilst it is not desired to mislead the buying public, yet it is extremely desirable that they should not be stampeded into the belief that supplies will be far greater than the demand.

Empire Fruit Federation.—During the Ottawa deliberations, inter-Empire discussions brought to light a desire on the part of the delegates present for the creation of an Empire Fruit Federation, and a Conference of all Empire fruit interests is now proposed.

Advertising.—On the question of advertising, my investigations and enquiries have led me to believe that this work is most thoroughly and efficiently conducted. Mr. Hyland, who has charge of these operations in London, is an enthusiastic worker and has a highly organised staff carrying out some excellent propaganda. All sections of the trade expressed complete satisfaction in this connection.

GAS STORAGE OF FRUIT.

A South African Experiment.

In the Johannesburg "Star" there recently appeared an account of an experimental shipment of fruit specially treated by a process which eliminates the necessity for cool storage in transit. The consignment was Papaw fruit, and was sent to London by the "Winchester Castle." Papaw is the most perishable of fruit, and the consignment was treated with a patent process that eliminated the necessity for placing it in cool storage. Three tins containing 18 Papaws packed at the same time as those sent in the experimental consignment were opened in the presence of a representative of the "Star," and the results observed were sufficient to justify confidence that the consignment would be a complete success. The Papaws were packed in airtight tins, into which a non-injurious gas was pumped which had the effect of preserving the fruit. The Papaws opened up in perfect condition. It seemed that the skin disease in the fruit had been held completely in suspense by the action of the gas. The flavor was perfect. Arrangements are being made to apply the patented process to consignments of Grapes, Plums, Pears, Peaches, and other deciduous fruits.

That's Where he Slipped.

Jiggs: "Did you hear of the accident to Blobbs?"

Miggs: "No, what was it?"

Jiggs: "He slipped on a Banana skin and dislocated his elbow."

Miggs: "Poor fellow, I am sorry to hear it."

Jiggs: "Oh, but it was a Fiji Banana skin."

Miggs: "Oh, was it, well serve him jolly well right."

South Australia.

Mid-Murray Notes.

Renmark (20/3/33).

High-grade Sultanas.

It is quite possible that this year is likely to establish a record in Sultana production in the River Murray areas.

The year has been singularly free from sun scorch, which prematurely browns berries and spoils the finished sample.

With the exception of a few isolated patches where oidium attack has been in evidence, no other fungoid diseases have made their appearance this year, consequently the quality now going into the packing sheds is particularly good. This locality is not considered one for producing good quality Sultanas, because of a great variation in our soils, and a certain conservatism on the part of growers in adopting standardised methods.

This year, however, the quality is mostly four crown, with a fair proportion of five crown. Five crown constitutes fruit of a golden type without blemish, and while passing through the Renmark Fruit Growers' Co-operated packing shed a day or two ago, this type of fruit was being processed and packed for export.

The fruit, after passing through the grader, passes over an endless belt about 2 ft. wide, where any stray pieces of stalk or darkened berries are picked out by a batch of young girls. From here the fruit passes on to an automatic weighing machine, then to a hydraulic press, mechanical nailing down machine, after which boxes are wired and ready for export.

This company is working double shifts and expects to pack the largest tonnage of high-grade fruit since its inception.

Rain Affects Currants.

Currants, on the other hand, are of a low grade owing to the January rain causing a large percentage of mould, in some instances the damage was so bad that an entire patch had to be left unpicked. This happened chiefly with heavy bearing vines of dense foliage, while the lighter crops on stiff soils fared better, and in some instances sustained no loss at all. Packing sheds have constructed dozens of wove wire sieves and will not accept Currants until lumps of mould have been separated from good fruit by means of these sieves. These sieves pass from one grower to another, and on one property I saw a stack of 200 sweat boxes of Currants waiting to be hand sieved.

A special irrigation

commenced on March 13 for the benefit of citrus growers and for those wishing to put in cover crops. The importance of annual cover crops is being realised to such an extent that irrigations are now being regulated to allow this to be done. Although this irrigation comes at a time when everybody is busy with harvesting operations, large areas are being irrigated and planted with peas and beans.

Green Manure Crops.

The decision whether to plant peas or beans depends on circumstances. Peas planted during this month are ready to be ploughed under at the end of June, whereas if planted during April, cover crops are rarely ready before August or September, the warm autumn days give peas a good start, after which steady growth is made until maturity.

Beans, on the other hand are severely checked by cold weather, but have the advantage of absorbing large

quantities of moisture and have proved invaluable for the purpose of removing surplus soil water.

During our irrigation season, from August to May, as a general rule, far more water is added to the porous soils than can be absorbed by our vines and trees, which means that sooner or later patches of land suffer from water-logging to such an extent that vines become unproductive.

A cover crop of beans planted at this time of the year acts in a dual capacity of absorbing this surplus soil water, at the same time adding a very important amount of organic matter to the soil when ploughed under in the spring.

Importance of Drainage.

The extent to which a water table may rise under irrigation, has been demonstrated in the Chaffey and Block E areas, where a permanent water table has risen about 2 ft. in the past three years, over practically the whole area.

This rise has been more acute on the better type of land, which seems to constitute a subterranean basin from which there is not sufficient natural "getaway" for surplus water. Hitherto the matter of drainage has been left to the individual grower, but a rise as stated above is of such importance to the area concerned that concerted action is necessary, together with more scientific irrigation practices. Mr. A. V. Lyon, M.Sc., of the Merbein Experimental Station, working under the C.S.I.R., has been carrying out experimental work on irrigation in our areas for the past three years, from which valuable data has been gathered. This will shortly be published as a guide on irrigation for various soil types. Up to the present time our industry has made big strides in the production of high-grade fruit, but the science of irrigation has been neglected. The old "rule of thumb" methods must give way to the findings of science on this all important matter.

The Citrus Association

held its twelfth annual meeting at Renmark on Thursday last, Mr. F. H. Metters (the President) occupied the chair and dealt with the operations of the Association during the past twelve months. Some discussion took place on the Melbourne marketing policy. Mr. Metters realised the difficulties of this market, and doubted the wisdom of establishing a separate State representative. This would mean a clash between States, as each State would be obliged to appoint a representative, and this competition which would follow this action, would not be in the best interests of the industry.

It was resolved that 30,000 cases of the coming crop of Oranges would be exported this year, and that a representative of the Association accompany this shipment, working on similar lines which had proved so successful with the New Zealand operations.

Standardised Mixed Dip.

Mr. A. C. Ingerson addressed a meeting of the Agricultural Bureau on March 2 on the subject of the standardised mixed dip as recommended by the C.S.I.R. Mr. Ingerson has been instrumental in having this dip advocated owing to his experimental work in the early stages of its use. Working in close co-operation with Mr. A. V. Lyon, M.Sc., the speaker is qualified to speak with some authority on the subject, and imparted a great deal of useful information.—"Nemo."

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The monthly meeting of the S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association was held on February 24. The following members were present:—Mr. G. Jennings (Chairman), Messrs. J. Turner, W. H. Packer, R. B. Pritchard, R. Hunter, M.P., J. B. Randell, C. H. Ragless, W. J. Bishop, J. Donaldson, C. W. Giles, H. H. Schultze, F. Hughes, H. B. Robson, N. T. Hobbs, K. Harrison, L. J. Wicks, W. H. Ind, G. H. Parsons. Apologies were received from Messrs. Staniford and R. Cramond. The President, Mr. G. Jennings, reported having, with the Secretary and Mr. McRostie, visited Ashton, where a meeting of fruitgrowers was held, and at a field day at the Government orchard at Blackwood. Information was given by Mr. Parsons on work done in the Tomato section. A considerable increase had been made in the quantity sent, and the section was in a good financial position. Mr. Turner reported on pool matters. Fifty tons of Plums had been processed, but the Tomato pool was not yet full. Five thousand cases of Pears had been allocated to members.

Mr. Hughes referred to the rough handling of fruit at Port Adelaide, and it was decided to refer the matter to Mr. Quinn, and request him to take steps to get the Act enforced.

It was decided to send congratulations to Mr. F. C. Staniford, M.P., congratulating him on becoming a Minister of the Government. Appreciation was expressed for the services of the Melbourne Market Representative, Mr. W. J. McRostie.

MURRAY CITRUS GROWERS.

THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the Murray Citrus Growers' Co-operative Association was held in the Renmark Institute on March 15. Mr. F. H. Metters occupied the chair. After reading the annual report, the Chairman said that the year's operations were better than the previous year. Organisations had been tightened up and market prices were firmer. The financial statement also showed considerable improvement.

The General Secretary (Mr. Underwood) said that conditions on the Melbourne market had changed for the better. The subject of the Melbourne representative was raised. The Chairman referred to the difficulties of the market, and said whether they had a representative or not, they would not get a greater premium on their fruit than at present. At present it appeared likely that more N.S.W. fruit would come to Victoria, and if each State put their own representative on the market, they would have the three associations in competition with one another. Many matters were discussed dealing with Melbourne marketing policy, representation of packers and export. Mr. Metters was re-elected President for the tenth successive term.

THE CITRUS INDUSTRY.

Waikerie, S. Aust.—The Waikerie branch meeting of the Murray Citrus Growers' Association was held on February 20. Mr. F. H. Metters, Chairman, presided. Mr. G. E. Kitchen-Kerr (Melbourne) and Mr. Swanbury and the General Secretary (Mr. N. Underwood) were also present. Report of the Committee and financial statement were adopted. Messrs. G. M. Arnold, H. H. Howell and A. H. Headland were re-elected, and A. R. Isaacson. Mr. Howell reported on his impressions of the Gosford Convention, and Mr. Metters gave a report on the Association's operations during the last season. Mr. Kitchen-

Kerr reviewed the Melbourne market, and Mr. Underwood the Adelaide market. It was resolved that the Board of Management take steps to fix a sweat box price for river districts for direct selling to country trade, and to devise the means of selling centrally in each district. Re agents and merchants' agreements. It was decided that the branch be guided by the opinion of Central Executive, who have already explored this matter.

AUTUMN SPRAYING OF STONE FRUITS.

FOR THE CONTROL of such diseases as Peach leaf-curl, Peach dieback, brown rot, rust, and Apricot shothole, considerable assistance can be given by the application of a fungicidal spray when the leaves are falling. It is well known that on some Peaches—such as Carman, Wiggins, Elberta, and other related varieties—the application of one spray in the spring frequently fails to give good control of leaf-curl. The application of a fungicide in the autumn at leaf-fall, followed by one in the spring, is much more dependable in the control of curl on even the most susceptible varieties. In those districts growing Apricots, the one spring application of a fungicide has so far not proved effective for the control of shothole on such susceptible varieties as Newcastle, and much loss is sustained through severe disfigurement of the fruit. In other countries, including South Australia and California, it appears to be the regular practice to apply a fungicide in the autumn at leaf-fall and again in the spring, with much more satisfaction than with the one spring application. Apricot growers are therefore advised to give this treatment a trial.

The fungicide recommended for controlling disease on stone fruits at this season of the year is Bordeaux 5-4-50 (old formula), or, if hydrated lime is used, bluestone 3½ lb., hydrated lime 2 lb., water 50 gallons.

Where San Jose scale is present lime-sulphur 1 in 20 to 1 in 30, according to strength, may be substituted with good effect, although perhaps not quite so effective against leaf-curl as bordeaux.—W. L. Williams, Orchard Instructor, in "N.Z. Journal of Agriculture."

FUNGUS DISEASES OF STONE FRUIT TREES.

Autumn Spraying Advocated.

For assisting in the control of Apricot scab, Mr. S. Fish, M.Ag.Sc., Assistant Plant Pathologist, Plant Research Laboratory, Burnley, Vic., advises spraying with Bordeaux, 6-4-40, at the end of May, during June, or even July.

For Peach leaf curl spray with Bordeaux 6-4-40 during the dormant period.

BROWN ROT IN PEACHES.

In the consigning of Peaches from the Goulburn Valley to Sydney this season there were some serious losses through decay: the opinion in the trade is that the trouble was caused by brown rot and not by transit rot. Many buyers refused to stock the Peaches, and country forwarding agents ceased to buy, consequently agents were forced to accept low prices. Peaches that were pre-cooled and forwarded in refrigerated trucks arrived in good order, but the presence of brown rot was noticeable to a slight extent, and any portion not sold on the day of arrival developed brown rot rapidly. It is the opinion of those handling the fruit that the trouble is due to orchard infection and that transport conditions do not contribute in bringing about the very bad condition of many consignments.

Black End of Pears.

An Obscure Disease which is Puzzling Orchardists : Research Work is Needed : Control Sought by Grafting.

(By Our Travelling Representative.)

BLACK END OF PEARS was first observed in the Diamond Creek district about five or six years ago, when odd trees were found in various orchards. Now, not only has the number of infected trees increased in each orchard, but it is found much farther afield. I understand that other places—on the other side of the Yarra, have also noted it.

While watching packing operations at the Diamond Creek cool stores this week, I noticed Pears badly marked and split with this disease, and on making enquiries regarding its history and the methods adopted to cope with it, I was referred to Mr. G. M. Fletcher, Orchard Supervisor for the district. Mr. Fletcher has made a special study of black end and in an interview was good enough to give me the following particulars:

Investigation in the laboratory has shown that no organism has been isolated—that it is not caused by a fungus—and Mr. C. French (Government Biologist), advises that it is not infectious nor contagious. It is difficult to account for the increase in the number of affected trees.

Last spring, Mr. Fletcher grafted wood from trees known to be free, on to infected trees—and wood from infected trees on to clean ones, but until they fruit nothing can be said. However, one local orchardist worked sound Packham wood on to an infected Bosc which has produced infected fruit this season.

Winter Nelis and Winter Cole are two varieties that have not provided any diseased fruits yet, so far as Mr. Fletcher knows. Varieties known to be affected are: Williams, Packhams, Bosc, Laurence and Clairgeau.

It is noticed that all the infected fruits have a finer texture in the skin than the clean ones, and further there is a departure from the true type in shape. The affected fruits are more dome shaped at the calyx. These two features can be observed even before the black ring appears round the eye. The first indication of the black is a faint russet mark at the calyx. This presently turns black, extending from the base of the lobes of the calyx and forming a ring. Sometimes a dirty-black smudge extends half way down the side, or even embraces half the fruit. At times the fruit cracks or splits as is seen in black spot or the calyx end may crack like a Dunns.

The deterioration is only skin deep, but the whole tissue of the Pear is woody and quite uneatable.

The trouble appears as soon as the fruit is ready to harvest. Specimens not showing it at picking time develop it quickly in the fruit shed, but slower in cool store. Once a tree develops the trouble observations show that every fruit borne each year is affected, and at present the only thing to do is to grub the tree. Research, it is thought, will determine the cause, and from that they should find the control. It is strange that no variation in any other direction can be seen. Growth continues normal and once the crop is harvested there is nothing about the tree to show the existence of the trouble. So far as can be seen the ground under and round affected trees is similar to that in which clean trees are growing in the next row. The trouble doesn't radiate from a centre, they just find odd trees here and

there. It is known that trees after bearing clean fruit for anything up to 25 years develop the trouble without any warning.

(The experiences of orchardists in other districts is invited on this subject.—Ed. "F.W.")

VICTORIA.

Pear Export.

Doncaster (18/3/33).—Fruit exporters are showing great activity in the Doncaster district at present. Five vessels took consignments of Pears in one week, including the "Maloja," with 10,000 cases, and the "City of Dieppe" with 8,000 cases. Varieties included Beurre Bosc, Packham, Howell and Marie Louise.

The "Canadian Constructor" is listed to take about 4,000 cases and will be closely followed by the "Golden Cloud" with a similar amount for Vancouver.

Advices have been received that the first shipments of Pears and Plums on the "Moldavia" arrived in London in good condition.

Somerville.—The 37th Annual Show of the Somerville Fruitgrowers' and Horticultural Association was held at Somerville on March 15, Col. C. E. Merrett performing the official opening. There was an excellent display of fruit, flowers, vegetables, farm produce, cookery and domestic art, children's work, as well as horses, cattle, dogs, poultry, etc.

In the fruit section for the Gerrard Shield for district packing (group), Somerville came first (93 pts.), with Harcourt North second (88 pts.). Apple packing, one case each, wrapped and unwrapped (under 16), A. T. Dennett; Pears, A. T. Dennett 1, E. de Bernardi 2; Apples (children under 14), C. Hawken; one case, Miss R. Dennett and Miss E. Dennett equal. The judges spoke in terms of highest appreciation of the fruit displayed, the Apple varieties including Jonathan, Granny Smith, Delicious, London Pippin, etc., and Pears, B. Bosc, Clairgeau, Kieffer, Vicar, W.B.C., etc. The prize-winners included F. Mills, W. F. Boe, J. Brunning and Sons, C. F. Isles, K. Murray, W. Thornell, A. E. Dennett, G. G. Cole and Sons, H. W. Shepherd, G. Shepherd, E. de Bernardi, J. D. Grant, and others. For the Mumford-Dan Wuille Cup for one case of Jonathans wrapped and packed for export, there were 22 entries. After much deliberation, the first prize went to J. D. Grant, with Messrs. Cole and Sons second.

At the luncheon appreciation was expressed for the splendid services of the President, Mr. T. W. Brunning and the Secretary, Mr. A. F. Telford. Mr. Jos. Jordan, on behalf of the judges, said that the tray of Granny Smith Apples exhibited by Mr. Benton was one of the finest he had seen in any part of the State.

Tyabb.—There is much activity now at the Tyabb Cool Stores and Packing House in the packing of Apples and Pears for export. A representative of the "Fruit World" visited there on March 15, in company with Messrs. J. M.

Ward, Superintendent of Horticulture, W. P. Hutchinson, R. Wadesoh (District Inspector), and L. Harcourt (Shed Manager). Over 900 cases of fruit were being packed daily. The total output for the season is expected to be about 60,000 cases. The principal Apple varieties are Jonathans; the Pears include Capiaumonts, Howell, Bosc, Clairgeau.

The fruit is received at one end of the packing house, each grower's line being kept separate. The fruit is sized over a Lightning grader, and the grower is credited with the quantity of cases, as packed out. The shed is conveniently arranged for the packing of the fruit, and its delivery on roller conveyors to the nailing machine, thence to the waiting railway trucks. All fruit under "Tycos" brand goes to Mr. Brake, Fruit Distributor, Borough Market, London. The other fruit is packed under the Bay brand. It was pleasing to note the high quality of the fruit at Tyabb.

Pakenham.—Excellent quality fruit was displayed at the twenty-first annual show of the Pakenham H.S. on March 25. Mr. M. Bennett, M.L.A., officially opened the show, and was supported by Mr. W. Tyner, M.L.C. The champion case of Jonathans, 24in., packed for export, was shown by Mr. W. H. Black. The Gerrard Challenge

was made an honorary member of the Association, and expressions of appreciation of the help Mr. Roberts had been to the Association in enforcing regulations regarding fruit marketing were given.

Members have made use of the cool stores this season and all space available will be taken, and concentration on early sales.

VICTORIAN FRUIT CROPS.

In the report on fruit crops received from the Department of Agriculture, it is stated that all previous indications of a very heavy crop of Apples and Pears have been more than borne out, and there is every probability of a record of four million cases of Apples being harvested. The sample of fruit, too, is excellent. Even in this heavy season the advantages of cross-pollination have been marked in all districts. Commercial growers are recognising this and taking steps to remedy pollination faults in their orchards.

There was a very heavy crop of late Peaches.

Shipping space is available for the export of approximately 1,300,000 cases of Apples and 300,000 cases of Pears. Excellent fruit is available for even greater shipments.

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Shield for Children's Apple Packing Competition, for best case of Apples (packed for export, open to school children from any part of the State) was won by the Harcourt North School. Other Apple varieties shown included L. Pippins, Statesman, Rokewood, G. Smith, Delicious, King David, Sturmer, R. Beauty, etc. In the Pear section a nice dish of Packham's Triumph was shown by G. Priest. There were also many fine floral exhibits.

Harcourt and Campbell's Creek.—Mr. J. M. Ward, Superintendent of Horticulture, accompanied by Mr. E. Meeking, Senior Fruit Inspector, visited the Harcourt and Campbell's Creek districts during March, and expressed gratification at the quality of the fruit in the district, and also the marked improvement in the packing and grading. Some of the sheds were handling and despatching fruit that would compare with anything packed in other parts of the world.

Geelong.—At a recent meeting of the Geelong Fruit-growers' Association regret was expressed that agents had failed to meet members to discuss marketing conditions. It was decided to hold a conference later.

The District Orchard Supervisor, Mr. E. E. Roberts,

To the third of March, 193,546 cases of Apples, 60,393 packages of Pears and 3,565 packages of Plums were exported from Victoria to the United Kingdom and Continent. Greatly increased shipments of Pears—especially William Bon Chretien—are taking place from the Goulburn Valley, which produces Pears—both early and late kinds—of exceptionally fine quality. The production of such varieties of Apples as Cleopatra and Dunns in the Goulburn Valley is exceeding expectation in regard to quality, and larger numbers are exported each year.

Berry Fruits.

Silvan.—Growers are contemplating closer organisation to secure better prices. The retail distribution of berry fruits through the railways had been very satisfactory. Country station masters who solicit orders on behalf of the United Berry Growers' Association, receive 6d. commission on every bucket of fruit sold. A standard price of 7/- per 12 lb. is received for this class for strawberries and Raspberries, and 5/- for Blackberries and Loganberries. The grower also has to pay freight. The value of the berry picking industry can be gauged by the fact that 500 men were engaged this season picking in the Silvan district alone.

FRUIT EXPORT FROM VICTORIA.

During the week ending March 17, 1933, 70,881 packages were despatched from Melbourne, the boats being "Maloja," on the 14th, for London, with 9,250 packages of Pears, and 59 packages Plums. "City of Dieppe" on 15th for London, 26,091 packages Pears. "Berwickshire" on 16th, taking 24,242 cases of Apples for London and 11,222 cases for Liverpool.

The total number of packages exported from Victoria to March 17 was 335,990, comprising Apples 231,477, Pears 100,889, Plums 3,624. The ports of destination and quantities were as follows:—London, 243,688 cases; Hull, 39,176; Liverpool, 29,648; Glasgow, 12,721; Bremen, 10,720; Dunkirk, 30; Antwerp, 4; Oslo, 3.

FRUIT EXPORT—COLOMBIE CUP.

The Superintendent of Horticulture (Mr. J. M. Ward) is in receipt of a communication from Mr. H. G. Colombie to the effect that the Silver Challenge Cup donated by him will again be available for competition among Apple-growers who export.

Competition for this cup has been very keen in the past. Mr. R. E. Fowler, late of Pomonal, was successful in winning it on two occasions; and the present holder is the Somerville Fruitgrowers' Co-op. Packing House.

Both private growers and other co-operative packing houses are keen to win the cup this season. Judging is carried out by officers of the Department of Agriculture throughout the season, and the results compiled at its close; the one obtaining the highest aggregate points is, of course, the winner for the ensuing year. Managers of various packing houses have informed Mr. Ward that they are determined to take the cup from Somerville; but the holders are equally determined to retain it. To beat the Somerville Packing House for the trophy means that a particularly good pack of Apples will need to be established and maintained throughout the season. The final results will be most interesting, and whoever is successful will deserve the win.

The following are the points on which judging will be done:—Labelling or stencilling, 10; timber, 10; wiring, 5; wrappers—plain 5, printed 10; correct height, 5; alignment, 5; compactness, 5; wrapping, 10; uniformity of size, 10; quality and freedom from disease, 20; uniformity of color, 10. Maximum, 100 points.

A New Act of Parliament.

Sammy: "Say, Dad, my teacher said that the law of gravity kept us on the earth. Is that right?"

Dad: "Yes, my boy, that is correct."

Sammy: "Well, how did we get on before that law was passed?"

Joe Ward Was the Choirmaster.

Bill Muggins didn't go to church as often as he might. He went one Sunday and described to his companion, Joe Bung, the singing, especially the anthem. "What's an anthem, Bill?" asked Joe. "Well, I can't explain exactly," said Bill, "but if you sang 'The Missus wipes the Apples,' that would be a hymn, but the same as an anthem would sound like 'The Missus, the Missus, the buxom blooming Missus, she wipes, wipes, wipes the Apples, the rosy blooming Apples, every blooming day and night, A ha a men'."

Western Australia.

Stabilising Values on Local Markets.

THE APPLE SALES BOARD of Western Australia, has achieved a gratifying measure of success during its three years' operations. In the annual report just issued it states that the advice given by the Board to growers had some effect in checking the tendency to store excessively, but the greatest benefit of all has lain in the stabilisation of values and the maintenance of demand. The Board was organised to ensure orderly marketing for the benefit of growers. It is a registered and responsible body constituted of growers and salesmen who give their services voluntarily, so that the administration costs are kept down to a minimum. The personnel of the Board is:—Messrs. A. C. R. Loaring (Chairman), J. Thomson, A. P. Sharpe (Bridgetown), J. McNeil Martin (Mt. Barker), C. W. Harper (Chairman Directors, Westralian Farmers Ltd.); Executive: C. W. Harper, C. E. Bolt (Albany), A. T. Booth (Mt. Barker), E. Fisher (Bridgetown); H. W. Soothill, F. Simper. A Marketing Committee is constituted as follows, and has charge of the administration of the Board's Marketing Scheme for 1933:—W. Barryman, R. M. Carter, J. Glendenning, F. W. Lantzke, J. Rogers, M. Scanlon, F. Simper. Country members:—C. E. Bolt, A. T. Booth and E. Fisher. Mr. H. W. Soothill is Secretary.

The report states that the success of the scheme could not have been achieved, but for one fixed policy; they have absolutely refused to seek or to countenance any artificial interference by way of legislation or regulation. A system of bulk consignments from country cool stores has been carried on and has secured to growers, freight savings of no less than £600.

Their recommendations for season 1933 to growers, are to export as fully as possible and to clear before June 30 the main export varieties, varieties unsuitable for storage, inferior fruit and also export some Yates. They also advise growers to present a first-grade article, pick at the correct stage, grade thoroughly, pack carefully and store promptly after picking.

The Apple Sales Board is performing useful service and is to be congratulated on its success.

"Tomato Week" Proposed in W.A.

The Growers' Marketing Association of W.A., in conjunction with representatives of manufacturing companies held a meeting recently in Perth, for the purpose of conferring with and seeking the aid of manufacturers with a view of asking their co-operation in regard to the problems in connection with Tomatoes, other vegetables, and fruit.

Members of the Council present were:—Messrs. Brooks (Chairman), R. S. Sampson, M.L.A., L. Thorn, M.L.A., T. H. Ilbery, H. B. Howatson, G. Tapping, W. Hart, H. A. Smith and A. Nock (Hon. Sec.), Mr. F. Shand (Swan Brand Products), and Mr. H. Rayner (Rayner and Co. Ltd.), were also present.

At the suggestion of Mr. Shand, it was decided to hold a "Tomato Week," particularly if the manufactured article, such as sauce, soup, etc., was brought into prominence and the co-operation of retailers sought.

Next to knowing when to seize an opportunity, the most important thing in life is to know when to forego an advantage.—Disraeli.

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DRIED FRUIT EXPORT.

According to the Victorian Dried Fruits Board, 64 truckloads representing 8,000 tons of new season's dried vine fruits were shipped in the steamer "Nestor" from Melbourne on March 18. This was the first large shipment of dried fruits this season.

Further shipments will be made by the "Orontes" and "Barrabool," and the first consignment for Canada will be lifted by the "Canadian Constructor." There is every indication of an excellent export crop, particularly in the case of Sultanas. The majority of the fruit has been despatched from the drying sheds at Mildura, Nyah and Red Cliffs.

CURRENTS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Mr. E. N. Seary presided at a meeting of the S.A. Dried Fruit Packers' Association held at Berri recently, when methods of handling this season's Currant crop were discussed. The fact that much depends upon the treatment of the fruit by the growers was stressed. The following resolutions were carried:—

1. That growers be asked to do everything in their power to eliminate as much as possible the mould in Currants.

2. With a view to maintaining equity to growers, the packers reserve the right to treat each grower's Currants separately and to issue an adjusted sweat weight and receipt accordingly; and that the growers be asked to deliver Currants in a much drier state than usual.

DRIED FRUIT GRADES.

The annual function for fixing the grades of dried fruits was held at Mildura during March. The opinion was expressed that the samples were among the best ever seen at Mildura. Owing to rain at the beginning of the season, Currants were not thought so good as in previous years, but some very fair samples were shown. Sultanas had a nice appearance. Among those present were E. T. Henderson and H. V. Davey (Dried Fruits Board), F. V. Collins (Officer-in-Charge, Commerce Department), Ross Grant (Department of Markets), H. Noel (Chief Inspector), and many others. The Government grade-fixers, Messrs. Ralph, Colby (S.A.), and Plummer.

Dehydration at Renmark.—Mr. Henry Allchurch has installed a portable dehydrator on his Renmark property, and is very pleased with its results, as the first delivery of Sultanas went 5 crown. Mr. Richards, manager of the property, speaks highly of the dehydrator, clearing and reloading racks 50 yards long in a few days.

Viticulture in Victoria.

February was practically rainless. In the north-east Grapes ripened steadily but slowly. The season was later than usual. In the irrigation area the drying season promises to be the best for several years. The January rains caused some damage to Currants in the shape of split berries, but the damage was not considerable.

The quality of cold dipped fruit is unquestionable, but it demanded Grapes in perfect order and good drying conditions. The quality of the 1933 dried Grape pack should be of a high order. Owing to the quantity of Sultanas and the good weather, the cold dip is more in favor than during the past two seasons when the warm mixed dip was most popular owing to the more rapid drying it promotes.

Sultana Competition.—The Aurora Packing Company is continuing to conduct a competition for the ton of best light-colored Sultanas, any dip, supplied by grower clients, but for this year the competition is divided into three districts, Red Cliffs, Irymple and Merbein, and a prize of £15 will be presented to the winner in each area. As light-colored Sultanas are favored by the trade and overseas markets, growers are advised to endeavor to produce the fruit which is in demand.

W.A. DRIED FRUITS BOARD.

Mr. J. N. Cox presided at a meeting of the Dried Fruits Board of W.A. during February. There were also present, Messrs. R. J. Lowson, H. O. Newman and P. H. Taylor. The following matters were dealt with: Agreement with Agents, Registration of Dealers, Appointment of State Inspectors, Grading of W.A. Dried Vine Fruits and Alterations in Grade Marking.

PRICES FOR WINE GRAPES.

The Wine Grapes Marketing Board has issued a statement that it had no option but to accept the prices paid last year. The estimated crop is between eleven and twelve thousand tons, and may leave a surplus of up to two thousand tons over and above the amount required by the wineries, and arrangements will be made to treat the surplus at co-operative distilleries. Prices are not considered satisfactory, but it was the only solution open to the Board, which had the alternative of declaring a higher price and being left with thousands of tons to dispose of. The price agreed upon is the most the wineries are prepared to pay.

A levy of 1/- per ton on all wine Grapes has been declared by the Board to cover administration costs. This should amount to between £500 and £600, and may be more than is required by the Board.

TOMATO CULTURE.

TOMATO CULTURE was dealt with at the Laura Bay Branch of the S.A. Bureau of Agriculture recently by Mr. F. Sims, who in the course of his paper gave the following hints:—

Plant the seed during June in boxes, and have a covering that can easily be placed over them at night as a safeguard against frost. A good cover can be made with two old bags cut open and sewn together to form a sheet. When the plants are about 2 in. high, transplant them into another box to harden, and to give them more room. Finally, transplant into the open into ground which has been previously dug with not too much manure. When the plants are showing the first flower buds, and as the weather gets warmer place a good mulch of stable manure on top of the ground around the plants to stop evaporation during summer. Keep the soil damp until the first fruit sets, then water at least twice a week, always keeping the ground well hoed and loose. Spotted wilt is the most serious disease for out-door Tomatoes, and causes heavy losses in the season. Indications of the disease are that the young leaves turn a bronze color and the plant has the appearance of not having enough water. Wilt will attack the plants from seedlings through all stages, but disappears as the weather becomes hot. There is no effective cure for this disease, but a spraying of nicotine and soap at intervals of 10 days, or dusting with nicotine dust or sulphur will sometimes check it from spreading.—"S.A. Journal of Agriculture."

VICTORIAN CENTRAL CITRUS CONFERENCE.

THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the Victorian Central Citrus Association was held at Melbourne on March 28 and 29. The Conference was officially opened by the Premier of Victoria (Sir Stanley Argyle), who urged the necessity for export and deplored the New Zealand embargo. Delegates were present as follows:—Messrs. A. W. Schwennessen (Murra-bit), Chairman; Directors—P. Cobbett (Barmawm), D. B. Halhed (Merbein), J. S. Cotton (Cobram), J. A. Parkes, General Manager. Delegates: Messrs. S. P. Taylor (Curlwaa, N.S.W.), C. V. Rees (Long Lake), A. V. Leng (Merbein), H. Wormwell (Mildura), Ritchie Brown (Shepparton), T. C. Roddis (Tongala), P. Ros-siter (Ngawa), A. E. Cameron (Red Cliffs), R. J. V. Foote (Nanneella), also Messrs. F. H. Metters, A. V. Mills and C. Mueller, of South Australia. Messrs. J. M. Ward (Superintendent of Horticulture) and L. J. Provan (Horticultural Research Officer) were also in attendance.

Mr. J. A. Parkes said there was a market in Western Canada for 40,000 cases per annum. While nominally there was a market in Eastern Canada for one and a half million cases, the difficulties of securing same for Australia seemed insuperable. The markets in the Near East were limited. He was hopeful that the trade delegation from Australia to N.Z. would secure the lifting of the present embargo.

Mr. L. J. Provan, Horticultural Research Officer, Department of Agriculture, gave a very interesting lantern lecture dealing with analyses of quality in Washington Navel and Valencia Late Oranges, and showing the relative values of fruit from different districts.

Basing his calculations on a price of 8/6 per gallon for juice, he gave the following table as illustrating the value of juice in one ton of Oranges:—

Percentage.	Gallons Per Ton.	Value.
50	108	\$46
45	97	\$41
40	86	\$37
30	65	\$28

Value of Oranges per case on the basis of juice content:—

One case testing 50 p.c.	12/-
One case testing 45 p.c.	10/10
One case testing 40 p.c.	9/7
One case testing 30 p.c.	7/3

Melbourne Market Report.

Mr. G. E. Kitchen-Kerr, Market Representative, stated that the gross Orange yield of citrus of Victoria and border in 1931-32 was 940,000 bushels, and Lemons 128,000 bushels. From April 1, 1932, to February, 1933, the production was 761,000 bushels Oranges and 70,000 Lemons. In the last seven years the production had doubled. Nearly 75 per cent. of this gross yield was sent to Melbourne, which also received 300,000 bushels from S. Aust. and N.S.W. The quantities arriving at Melbourne market were 910,000 in

1931-32 and 735,000 in 1932-33 (March figures not included). V.C.C.A. agents handled 53 per cent. last season, as compared with 50 per cent. the previous year.—From Victoria and border the quantity was 197,000 cases—47 per cent.; from S. Aust., 181,000, or 83 per cent., and from N.S.W. 18,000, or 19 per cent.—a total of 389,000 bushels; the previous year the Association total was 420,000. The supervision by the Federal Citrus Council had resulted in stabilised prices as compared with chaotic conditions before the supervision existed, thus benefiting non-association grow-

(Continued on page 223).

ATLANTIC WHITE SPRAYING OIL



A Safe, Effective Spray at Low Cost

Atlantic is entirely free from water and contains neither sulphur nor ammonia. It forms a perfect emulsion with water, and when applied leaves a film of oil just sufficient to kill any pests. It is easily distributed over the fruit and does not leave any excess of oil to gather dust and lower market value.

FULL PARTICULARS

from

ATLANTIC UNION OIL CO. LTD.
66 Pitt St., Sydney 396 Collins St., Melbourne

The Sun Drying of Figs.

By W. V. Cruess,

Associate Professor of Food Products, University of California.

SMYRNA HAS LONG BEEN KNOWN as the world's principal Fig exporting port. The fruit is produced in Palestine and other districts of Western Asia Minor. In recent years the production of dried Figs in California has rapidly increased, and California is now Smyrna's strong competitor in the markets of the United States.

Varieties of Figs for Drying.—The "Smyrna" Fig (more properly, *Lop Injir*), a large white variety, is the principal variety grown in the Mediterranean countries for drying. It requires fertilisation with the pollen of some other variety, accomplished by a small wasp which develops inside a male variety of Fig grown for pollination purposes and known as the *Capri Fig*; on emergence from the latter the insect carries on its legs and body pollen from the flower of the *Capri Fig*, the flowers of which are borne inside the Fig. The insect, known as *Blastophaga grossorum*, escapes through the small opening in the blossom end of the *Capri Fig*, enters the eye of the immature *Smyrna Fig* and pollinises it. The *Smyrna Fig* does not develop or ripen unless pollinised in the manner described above. The *Capri Fig* remains on the tree during the winter and serves as an abode for the *Blastophaga*, a fact which prevents extermination of the insect after the removal of the Figs from the *Smyrna* trees.

The *Smyrna* variety is large, of excellent flavor, and is attractive in appearance when packed. An objection to this variety when grown in a cool climate is its tendency to ferment and sour before drying.

"Calimyrna."—A strain of the *Smyrna* variety is grown in California under the name of "Calimyrna." Its successful culture has been made possible by the studies of George Roeding, of Fresno, and G. P. Rixford, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"Adriatic."—The *Adriatic Fig* is a white variety of pink flesh. It requires no artificial pollinisation and a large proportion of the seeds are sterile. It is inferior in size and flavor to the *Calimyrna* variety, but is a heavy bearer and is grown extensively on that account.

Kadota.—The *Kadota* (according to Coit and Condit, 11 the *Dodatto*), is a white variety now planted extensively in California for fresh shipment and for canning and preserving. It is on the average smaller in size than the *Calimyrna* and *Adriatic* varieties, and requires no pollinisation. It is the most satisfactory variety grown in California for canning and preserving, because of the fact that the walls of the fruit are thick and the seed cavity is small. A limited quantity only of the fruit is dried.

Mission.—The *Black Mission Fig*, which has been grown in California since the days of the early Spanish mission, yields a dried product of black color, tender texture and excellent flavor. The Fig is not subject to souring or black smut, and the trees yield heavily. The dried product is used with the white varieties for fancy mixed packs.

Harvesting.—Figs should not be picked for drying, but should be allowed to ripen and partially to dry on the tree and fall to the ground of their own accord. If picked from the tree the fruit is liable to sour on the trays or mould and the dried product will be woody and of poor flavor. The orchard ground should be made as smooth as possible by rolling. The fruit should be picked

from the ground frequently and should not be allowed to lie on the ground more than two or three days, because of danger of moulding of certain varieties, toughening of the skin of other varieties, and danger of infestation with insects which gain entrance through the eye of the Fig.

Dipping and Sulphuring.—*Calimyrna* Figs are in some dry yards dipped in a solution of 10 pounds each of salt and hydrated lime per 100 gallons of water in order to remove some of the hairs from the surface, to improve the color and to soften the skins. Some *Adriatic* Figs are also dipped in a solution of the above or similar composition. *Mission* Figs are not dipped before drying.

The Figs are carefully sorted as they are spread on the trays, and the *Adriatic* Figs are usually sulphured, in order to bleach the flesh and to sterilise them. It is believed that sulphuring checks fermentation and destroys insects and insect eggs. The trays are usually placed in the sulphur box in the evening and allowed to remain in the fumes of the burning sulphur overnight, three hours or more sulphuring being necessary to accomplish the desired results. The *Calimyrna Fig* should not be sulphured except under adverse drying conditions to prevent souring.

Drying.—As they arrive at the dry yard Figs are usually from one-half to two-thirds dry. On this account it is frequently possible to stack the trays immediately after spreading the fruit and to accomplish most of the drying in the stack. Exposure to the sun toughens the skin of the *Calimyrna* variety and a dried product of better quality is obtained by drying the fruit entirely in the stack.

The Figs are dried until firm and until juice or syrup can no longer be expressed with the fingers.

Sorting and Boxing.—The dried fruit is carefully sorted on the trays to remove bird pecked, green and split fruit and fruit showing evidence of smut. The cull fruit is of little value except for hog feed. In some yards the *Adriatic* Figs are dipped in salt solution after drying and are sulphured before being placed in sweat boxes. Most of the fruit is, however, placed directly into sweat boxes from the trays. Figs should not be placed in sacks, as such treatment is liable to result in crushing of the fruit and in injury to its appearance.

Harvesting and Drying Figs in Asia Minor.—Roeding has briefly described the harvesting and drying of *Smyrna* (*Lop Injir*) Figs in the following manner:—

Harvesting.—Before harvesting begins the orchards are weeded carefully so that the Figs may be seen readily after they have dropped. The harvesting season begins about August 5, but the best fruit is gathered in September. The Figs drop to the ground and are gathered in baskets holding about 50 pounds when filled, but the baskets are gathered only half full.

Dry Yard.—The drying ground is usually an open space in the orchard where a few trees have died and have not been replanted. Layers of rushes about 2 inches thick and about 3 feet wide with pathways between them are prepared. The Figs are dumped from the baskets on the rushes and are then spread by hand one layer deep.

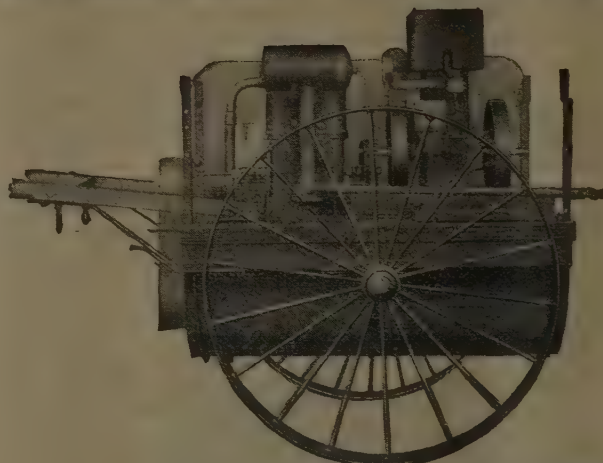
The Figs are stirred daily with the hands, and the small Figs, which dry first, are removed. The usual length of the drying period is 2 to 4 days.

Storing.—The dried Figs are usually stored in a small room in the dwelling of the owner or foreman. At the end of the season they are sorted into three grades for size and are packed in goat hair sacks for shipment to the packing house.

None of the Figs are packed in the Fig-growing districts, but are shipped to *Smyrna* and packed in special establishments for this purpose.

The Most Talked Of Spray Cart in Australia To-day.

The "BUZACOTT" 469 Portable ORCHARD SPRAYER



A Striking Example of the "Buzacott" Big "4" Portable Outfits.

**There is an abundance of evidence to show that the
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CITRUS BUD SELECTION.

A Paper Read by Mr. R. J. Benton, Special Instructor in Citrus, N.S.W. Dept. of Agric., at the Recent Gosford Conference.

THE RESULTS OF CALIFORNIAN investigation into standardisation of their citrus fruit varieties is now history. Such is more particularly the case in regard to the recommendations by A. D. Shamel and his fellow-workers for the maintenance of greater uniformity of quality in an era of rapidly increasing production.

The history of other countries' production, more especially of a rapidly expanding character, is practically identical with California's experience. South America, South Africa and this country afford examples of the need for much greater attention generally towards the parentage of citrus nursery trees.

History of Navel Orange in N.S.W.

The history of the Navel Orange in this State is that several of these trees were introduced between 1822 and 1839. These trees appear to have come from Rio de Janeiro. What type they were mostly is unknown, though the 1839 introduction by Dr. Parks was definitely of the best Washington Navel class. A number of old Navel trees worked from this importation are still bearing. It is fairly certain that some of the Navels introduced in those early days, 100 years ago, were of the "Dud" type and so called the Australian Navel.

With the introduction of more Navel trees from California between the 80's and 90's by several old growers, the desirability of the Washington Navel was recognised. Small nurseries were often conducted by some of these growers, who were alive to the fact that some Navel trees were better bearers than others, and who propagated consequently only from the best of trees. Gradually, the areas of Navels extended, but it is to the foresight of those old growers to whom we largely owe recognition for the basis of our best production to-day.

Unfortunately, the very rapid extension of citrus plantings within the last 10 to 20 years induced commercial nursery practice to seek bud wood of most citrus varieties from sources of production which were not closely observed, resulting in the present position of much fruit being of what is known as "off type."

Close observation of many hundreds of trees in N.S.W. for successive years of production show that there is much variability. This is very much more pronounced in some orchards than in others, and it is not confined to any particular district.

In addition to trees bearing an inferior type of fruit, it is more frequent to find limbs bearing such quality on trees which bear a very good type on other portions. To many growers this has seemed incredible.

This tendency to bearing "off types" on occasional limbs, in addition to finding whole trees bearing similar fruit, is not uncommon in all the commercial citrus varieties, with the one exception, perhaps, of Grapefruit.

The bearing of odd fruit of freakish character is not uncommon in all trees, but as the proportion of such fruit is very small, and the occurrence is very irregular, this characteristic is not of any importance if the tree produces a satisfactory type generally.

The variations mentioned in the form of limbs, also of individual fruits differing in the main characteristics from the rest of the tree, indicate that the variations are of two natures—stable or permanent, as exemplified by the limb variant, and unstable, as in the freakish examples.

The stable or permanent variations can, of course, be propagated. Thus we occasionally find an odd tree producing all its fruit, or practically so of the "off type." What is the reason for the initiation of the "off type"

limb is unknown, but it is due to the alteration of a cell's structure which in its extension gradually develops into a portion of the tree.

In regard to the

genuine Washington Navel tree, limb or fruit variations are not common. The size of the fruit, texture and color of the rind vary greatly according to the soil, environment and cultural practices adapted. Usually the fruit is large in size, with bright orange-colored rind, moderately thick, which on the surface is fairly smooth. Oil cells are of medium size and often convex and prominent, running right down to the navel end.

The size of the Navel is usually small, but is very variable, ranging from almost closed in some to almost 1 in. diameter in others.

The flesh is slightly raggy, seedless, and the flavor of the abundant juice is sweet, but slightly acid, and is perhaps best described as being "sprightly." Frequent departures of trees bearing this standard of fruit are of the strains of Thompson, also Australian or "Dud" Navels.

It is possible that, as distinct as Thompson Navel is—identifiable by its smooth skin of very attractive appearance, but with its very raggy flesh and juice of sweet flavor only—that such variety, or strain, may be divided into two classes. Some Thompsons are certainly better than others, but in view of a possibility that the quality is less stable than in other varieties of Oranges, this point is indefinite and awaits demonstration after propagation of the strains.

In the case of dud strains (so called Australian), this type is readily recognised, in the foliage and habit of growth, which is distinct from other Navel strains. The foliage is rather larger, the tree's habit of growth is more erect and vigorous and somewhat sparse in appearance, bearing fruit of variable shape and uniformity, often with ovate tendency, medium sized mostly. The oil cells are prominent and are larger than in Washington Navels, whilst the flesh is very free of rag, and the flavor is distinctly acid. The cropping ability, too, is not prolific or regular, consequently the trees develop to a larger size than other Navel trees.

Between this dud type and Washington Navels are at least two types which might be described as Washington Navels, with slight Australian tendency, also Washington Navels with a pronounced dud, or Australian tendency. Both of these are better bearers than the real dud strain. Those of slight dud tendency appear, so far, to bear a little more regularity than the pronounced type.

The rinds of each type are fairly good indicators of the differences, being less smooth than the Washington Navel, with oil cells apparently increasing in size according to their relationship to dud or Washington origin. Texture of flesh and flavor varies similarly, being least raggy and most acid when of pronounced dud tendency. These apparent differences have been recorded also, by applying the maturity test for acidity.

Golden Nugget and Buckeye Navel strains, though grown, are not planted indiscriminately amongst other Navel trees and are only occasionally found in such situations as a rare limb variation or as individual fruits.

The most undesirable trees amongst Navels in this State are therefore of Thompson strain, dud strain (Australian), and Navels with pronounced, also slight dud tendency, and a flat type.

Of limb variations, the following have been recorded:—Ribbed, long, and a small dense leafed unproductive strain.

As individual variation of fruit specimens, Golden Nugget, Buckeye, Pear-shaped, Protruding Navel, Thompson and Corrugated have been recorded.

(To be continued)

COOL STORAGE ITEMS.

[Items of interest for this column invited from readers.—Ed. F.W.]

THE CARE OF BRINE TANKS AND EXPANSION COILS.

Helpful hints in the care of brine tanks and expansion coils were given in the November issue of the "Fruit World." The following concluding hints on this subject will be noted with interest:—

Painting of Galvanised Iron and Iron Tanks and Expansion Coils.

Preparation.—The surface must be absolutely free from grease or rust. Caustic soda, pumice, benzine and water are useful agents for cleaning. Naturally, all the caustic soda, etc., must be thoroughly washed out of the tank before painting.

Painting.—First coat, any local aluminium paint such as Silvafros. This gives a splendid key for Permoglaze Undercoat. Then apply two coats of Permoglaze Undercoat and one coat of Finish, allowing 24 hours between each coat for drying. After the last coat has been dry for 48 hours, fill with cold water.

Filling.—"United" Metal Filler is the best for filling up welding joints.

Permaglaze covers about 55 sq. yds. to the gallon of undercoat, which can be thinned a little with turps. if necessary, but is better without same, the finishing coat covers about 60 to 65 sq. yards per gallon, and on no account must thinners or turps. be added to it.

FOR INSULATING COOL STORES.

Following the trend of modern improvements in cool storage, it is satisfactory to note that the proprietary product known as Sisalkraft is giving satisfaction as a sheathing.

Mr. P. C. Marsh, consulting and refrigerating engineer, under whose supervision the large cool store was recently erected at South Yarra, Victoria, states that Sisalkraft has proved so satisfactory that 35,000 square feet were used at these cool stores. At Messrs. Mills' iceworks, Mildura, Sisalkraft is used for insulation in place of cork, results being entirely satisfactory. Supplies and all details are obtainable from Messrs. Henry Berry & Co. Pty. Ltd., 568 Collins-street, Melbourne.

COMMERCIAL INQUIRIES.

THE FOLLOWING COMMERCIAL INQUIRIES have been received by the Department of Commerce. No responsibility is accepted as to the standing of inquirers, with whom firms interested are requested to communicate direct. References accompany those inquiries marked (a), and interested firms will be supplied, in confidence, with information as to the general standing of inquirers on application to the Department of Commerce, A.M.P. Buildings, Collins-street, Melbourne.

(a) Messrs. Klein & Lurie Ltd., provision and produce merchants, of 2 Duke-street, London Bridge, London, S.E.1, desire to get in touch with Australian egg exporters.

Messrs. Prescott & Co., Craig-street west, Montreal, Canada, are anxious to get in touch with Australian exporters of gums, oils, dyewoods and chemical indigenous to Australia.

Mr. J. H. Williams, 191 Castlefield-avenue, Toronto, Canada, desires to secure Australian agencies of any kind.

(a) Mr. W. W. Wilson, 708a McIntyre Block, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, desires to get in touch with exporters of canned and dried fruits.

(a) Boon-Strachan Coal Co. Ltd., 1135 Beaver Hall Hill, Montreal, Canada, desire to secure agency for any class of Australian goods.

Wife (hearing awful row downstairs): "What's the matter? Can't you keep baby quiet?"

Helpless Husband: "How can I keep him quiet, dear unless I let him make a noise?"



GERRARD AUTOMATIC TACKER
and TACK STRIP for fastening labels to cases.
INEXPENSIVE—FAST—EFFICIENT
Why waste time with a hammer and tacks?

Gerrard Wire Tying Machines Co. Pty. Ltd.
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DETAILED PACKING CHARTS AND GENERAL
FRUIT PACKING INFORMATION ARE SUPPLIED
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SWANSEA (South Wales)

Is Prepared to Receive and Sell Your **APPLES & PEARS** in this Lucrative Area, Every Season

Established Over 30 Years.

References—Midland Bank Ltd.

Code—A.B.C. 5th Edition.

Correspondence Invited from Growers and Packers of Best Fruit.

SEASONABLE NURSERY WORK.

THE MOST POPULAR CHERRY stock among New Zealand growers is the Mazzard. Peaches and Nectarines are worked on their own seedlings. Fruit-growers do not favor the Peach as a stock for Apricots, some leaning to seedlings of Cherry Plum, Mariana Plum, or Apricot, and others to Cherry Plum cuttings. Plums are usually worked on Cherry Plum seedlings or cuttings.

If it is intended to use seedling stocks for the Apricot, Peach, Nectarine, or Plum, the stones of "pits" should be collected immediately before they become too hard. Petrol tins cut longways will be found convenient receptacles. Place a layer of 2 in. or 3 in. of moist sand in the bottom, on this put a single layer of stones, and on top put another layer of moist sand. Put the tins away in a shady place out of doors until the spring. Do not disturb the stones, but keep the soil moist. It is wise to have considerably more pits than are actually required for working the trees, to allow for misses and the elimination of the poorer seedlings.

Where

Cherry Plum cuttings are desired, they should be attended to now. Select shoots about the thickness of a lead pencil of this season's growth which are well ripened, discarding soft, whippy growths, and cover them to prevent drying out. The soil in which they are to be planted should be in good tilth and free of weeds, the top spit having been dug over. Place a garden-line along where the row is to be planted; along this line insert the spade into the soil at a slight angle to its full depth, raise it to the perpendicular and withdraw it. Do this for a few feet along the line or the full length of the row.

Now reduce the cuttings to about 12 in. to 15 in. long; make a clean cut just above the top bud, and just below the bottom bud. Carefully cut off the bottom three buds with a sharp knife, cutting off the bud only, without cutting into the wood, and strip off the leaves. Insert the cuttings in the spade cut about 2 in. to 3 in. apart, by pushing them down along the hard or sloping side until the bottom of the cutting reaches solid ground. When a number have been inserted walk along the row, pressing the soil solid with the heel to ensure that there is no loose soil or air-pocket against the cutting, especially

at the bottom, then rake the soil level, and the operation is complete. It is advisable to get the cuttings in as soon as possible while the soil is still warm.—W. R. L. Williams, Orchard Instructor, in "N.Z. Journal of Agriculture."

AUSTRALIAN FRUIT EXPORT.

Effect of N.Z. Competition.

Through the decision of New Zealand growers to place all their export fruit to Great Britain in the hands of one firm for sale, and also of the tendency to sell by auction instead of by private treaty, Senator Grant, of Tasmania, who is at present in London commented recently on this arrangement. He is of the opinion that prices will be affected and the spirit of competition will be eliminated between firms who, in the past, have handled Australasian fruit, thus adversely affecting growers.

N.S.W. SELLS APRICOT KERNELS OVERSEAS.

The Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission recently sold six tons of Apricot kernels (whole) to Germany at £35 per ton f.o.b. Sydney.

Another 5½ tons of whole Apricot kernels was subsequently shipped to London on consignment by the N.S.W. Government Offices. For this latter shipment it is anticipated that 40/- to 42/6 per cwt. ex store London will be realised.

Although the shipments to date are experimental (states the N.S.W. "Agricultural Gazette"), it is felt that a permanent trade in Apricot kernels can be worked up both in Germany and U.K., where they are used both for extraction of oil and for confectionery purposes.

THEN HE GOT THE PIP.

Brown: Y'know it wasn't an Apple which caused the fall of man.

Green: Oh, yeah?

Brown: Oh, no; it was a Banana skin.

FRUIT TREES

ONE GROWER SAYS—


"The trees (750) arrived in excellent order and are of exceptional quality. Our local inspector said they were the best trees he had seen. You will get my order, about same number, for next year."

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Shipping Nos.: 431 and 432.

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MISLED**

Insist on
direct freight
for a fair
share of
your exports

What are you doing

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MANCHESTER

One of the Best Markets and Biggest Centres of Population

Received only 33,296 Cases of Fruit by Direct Shipment from Australia
(including Tasmania), yet during the greater part of the Season London
Markets were glutted.

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40 Per Cent.

GUARANTEED 40 per cent. PURE NICOTINE.

Indispensable to the Orchardist

Invaluable to the Poultryman.

Full directions given on each tin.

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GET THAT 100 PER CENT. KILL.

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Agents for South Australia: Silbert, Sharp & Bishop
Ltd., Rundle Street East, Adelaide.

Agents for New South Wales: Buzacott & Co. Ltd.,
7-11 Market Street, Sydney.

Agents for Queensland: Buzacotts (Q'ld) Ltd.,
443 Adelaide Street, Brisbane.

(Enquiries invited for Territorial Sole Agents.)

Canned Fruit News.

PINEAPPLE CANNERY PROPOSED.

At Tweed Heads, N.S.W.

A meeting of the Tweed Heads growers has been convened to consider the establishment of a Pineapple canning factory on the Tweed River for treating the fruit. By these means it is hoped a better return will be realised by growers than at present. The cannery would be the only one operating in New South Wales, and it is thought that the Government may help to some extent.

The Senior Fruit Inspector, Mr. H. Eastwood, paid a visit recently to Tweed Heads in this connection.

Leeton Cannery.—At the present time, canning operations are in full swing at Leeton, N.S.W. Peaches are being processed. Golden Queens and Goodman's Choice are small, but Phillips variety are of better quality. From 80 to 90 tons of fruit per day are being received. Nearly 700 are employed at the cannery, 472 being girls.

Kyabram.—On March 14, a record was created at the Kyabram cannery; 8,200 cases passed over the weighbridge. As all storage space was taken, only 7,000 cases were received the next day and 3,000 cases had to be trucked direct to Melbourne cool store from Merrigum orchards.

During the second week in March, 17,884 cases of Peaches weighing 565 tons were received at the local cannery. The processing of Pullar's Clingstone Peaches has been commenced and the peak period was reached the next week.

Canned Fruit and Jam.—Mr. H. Williams, of the firm of H. Williams & Sons Pty. Ltd., jam manufacturers, of Alphington, Victoria, who recently returned from England and Europe, is convinced that Australian jams are unequalled for purity and more than hold their own with the products of other countries. He, however, thought a cheaper cost of production in England would keep out Australian competition and there is also a prejudice against tinned goods, preference being given to glass containers.

Canned Fruit Export.

The 1933 pack of Australian canned fruit will reach record dimensions. It will be necessary for canners to concentrate largely on the British market in an endeavor to dispose of their exportable surplus.

From the commencement of January to February 28, 36,720 doz. 30 oz. tins and 2,000 doz. 16 oz. tins have been sent to the U.K.; 18,328 30 oz. tins and 140 16 oz. tins to New Zealand; 7,427 30 oz. and 980 16 oz. to the East, and 699 30 oz. and 96 16 oz. miscellaneous, making a total of 63,174 30 oz. tins and 3,216 16 oz. tins. The above includes Apricots, Peaches and Pears.

His Endowment.

It was a fashionable wedding. The bridegroom had no visible means of support save his father, who was rich.

When he came to the stage of the service where he had to repeat, "With all my worldly goods I thee endow," his father said, in a whisper which could be heard all over the church:

"Heavens! There goes his wardrobe."

STANDARD GRADES FOR LOCAL SALE.

In New Zealand as system has been adopted of having a "Dominion mark" for standard grades of fresh fruit for local sale.

In England the same system is operating,—under the name of the "National mark."

What are the Australian States doing in this connection?

FOR SALE

143 acres of land with self-contained orchard of 80 acres Apples, Pears and Prunes (mostly Apples of export varieties, all in full bearing except 5 acres with three-year-old trees), situated on bitumen road at Verdun, 17 miles from Adelaide, South Australia, and adjoining railway station; one mile of River Onkaparinga passes through property; comfortable house; packing shed with electric driven grader; implement and other sheds; electric driven cold store, 7,000 cases capacity; 2 pumping engines; motor spray pumps; motor lorry and necessary horses and plant.

For Sale Walk in Walk Out:
No exchange considered.

For further particulars apply—

Scammell, Hardy and Skipper
40 PIRIE STREET, ADELAIDE.

Fruit Trees Fruit Trees To Market & Private Growers

Best Possible Results.

To be a successful Orchardist, the first absolute essential is that you plant only reliable trees—
Best of All, GOODMAN'S.

Goodman's Trees are grown under ideal conditions—grafted on to blight-resisting stock by experts, guaranteed strong, healthy, true to name and prolific bearers of finest marketable fruit in all climates.

Splendid stocks in Apples, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Apricots, Cherries, etc., etc., available—carefully packed and promptly despatched anywhere.

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for best quality fruit at highest
prices.*

Besides its own vast population, London supplies the seaside resorts. Tourists make their headquarters in London and want the best fruit.

London has always been the centre of the Australian and New Zealand fruit trade, and although many efforts have been made to divert it to other ports, the presence of its huge local market with expert distribution agencies will ensure it remaining so.

London an International market where the World's Buyers congregate, and where the highest prices for best produce are always obtained.

All particulars as regards charges, etc., can be obtained from:

Capt. A. W. Pearse, Port of London Authority, 10 Bligh Street, Sydney



No. 9 Spraying Machine

The Most Extensive
Manufacturers in the
British Empire of

RUBBER STAMPS

Stencils, Marking Devices,
Inks & Acme Stamp Pads

We make a Big Range of Special
Fruit Case Marking Sets

We also Manufacture and Supply
Spraying Machines
for All Purposes

Let us know your requirements, and we will
quote you. Ask for Spraying Equipment Price List

Excelsior Supply Co. Ltd.

160 George St. West 278 Post Office Place
SYDNEY, N.S.W. MELBOURNE, VIC.
86 Manners St., WELLINGTON, N.Z.

Citrus Growers !!

Spray NOW with a
50-50 Mixture of

Sincos and Gargoyle White Oils

*and thus ensure a CLEAN
Crop of Fruit without injuring
the foliage.*

SINCOS is also extremely efficient in
eradicating Brown Rot.

Prices on application to—

Bordeaux Chemical Co.
4 Glenbrook Avenue

Phone, U 7235. East Malvern, S.E.5.

There is

One Orchard Practice

about which there can be

No Argument !!

It is—

The Supply of HUMUS

The cheapest and best method
to ensure this supply is to sow

GREEN MANURE CROPS

(PEAS, BEANS, OATS, BARLEY, &c., &c.)

— IN —

FEBRUARY - MARCH

TOGETHER WITH

Super and Ammonia

Observe Carefully these Recommendations—

FOR LEGUMES (PEAS, BEANS, &c.)

	per acre.
In light poorish soils . . . 2:1 super and ammonia . . . 2 cwts.	
In medium soils 3:1 super and ammonia . . . 2 cwts.	
In good soils 6:1 super and ammonia . . . 1½ cwts.	
In rich soils super only 1½ cwts.	

FOR NON-LEGUMES (OATS, BARLEY, &c.)

Apply more nitrogen in each case, thus:—

1:1, 2:1, 3:1 or 6:1 super and ammonia, depending upon the nature of the soil as above.

**SOW EARLY. ADOPT ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS
AND TURN UNDER AT THE FLOWERING STAGE**

**A Rich Heavy Crop of Succulent Green Manure
That is the Ideal**

Supplies of any of the above specified Fertiliser Mixtures may be had through your Local Manure Agent.

For Further Particulars Apply to—

NITROGEN FERTILISERS PTY. LTD.

360 Collins Street, Melbourne

VICTORIAN CITRUS CONFERENCE. (Continued from page 214).

ers as well as members. For all varieties, sizes and grades, the average gross wholesale price was 7/3 in 1932-33, as compared with 6/7 in 1931-32. Mandarins 7/-, compared with 6/6, and Lemons 8/-, as compared with 4/3.

Crop prospects were:—For Victoria, light to medium. N.S.W. substantially heavier than last season in Mandarins, lighter in Lemons, and a little heavier in Navels; S. Aust., generally lighter than last season.

Although grading and packing had improved, a guaranteed brand of standardised quality was desired. Instead of fifty brands as at present, they should be reduced to two or three, and these could be effectively advertised. Districts with similar quality fruit could readily group themselves for standard packing and advertising. Alterations to the marketing system had been asked for, i.e., an increase in the number of agents up to ten; for agents to register as merchants. If any savings were effected the growers would have their levies reduced.

After full discussion, it was decided, on the motion of Messrs. Rees and Cameron, to adopt for 12 months the new marketing system of increasing the accredited agents to ten and permitting such to register as merchants. It was decided, on the motion of Mr. Wormwell, seconded by Mr. Cameron, that the Federal Government be requested to remove the duty on imported sulphate of ammonia.

With regard to lorry drivers taking the lower grades of Oranges for sale in country districts, it was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the Executive to deal with the Transport Board, if necessary. Mildura delegates, who introduced the matter, noted a suggestion from the Secretary (Mr. Parkes) to endeavor to have all sales made through the packing sheds.

It was decided, on the motion of Messrs. Leng and Wormwell, to recommend to the Executive that no annual Conferences in Melbourne be held between mid-February and mid-April.

Growers told of thefts from growers of fruit, fowls and goods, and it was decided to approach the Crown Law Department and the Hon. Justices' Association, asking for heavier penalties for convictions.

Under the "Sunfed" brand, the Peninsula Co-op. Fruitgrowers' Association has put up a choice pack this season.

Fruit Trees & Fruit Tree Stocks

Splendid Stock of Healthy Plants Available.

Apples, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Apricots,
Citrus, etc., packed and despatched to
all parts of the World.

Overseas Orders receive careful and prompt attention.

Catalogue printed.

Code A.B.C., 5th ed.

C. A. Nobelius & Sons Pty. Ltd.

Gembrook Nurseries, EMERALD, VICTORIA

'Phone, Ringwood 171.

"FRUIT WORLD ANNUAL"

Comprehensive review of
Australian and New Zealand
fruit industry

"The Fruit World," Box 1944
G.P.O., Melbourne.

Black Leaf 40

Death to Aphis (Plant Lice) and Other Insects

Aphis and other insects are common enemies of the orchardist and gardener. Protect your trees, vines and plants with "Black Leaf 40."

In the Orchard and Garden

"Black Leaf 40" is recommended for killing woolly aphis, apple aphis, peach aphis, aphis on roses, other flowers and vegetables, mussel scale (young), Harlequin fruit bug, holy or cross bug, oleander scale (young), San Jose scale (young), red scale (young), red mites (Summer), rutherglen bug, pear and cherry slug, thrip, fine scale (young), pea mite.

In the Poultry Yard

Paint the roosts lightly with "Black Leaf 40" just before the birds go to roost. Body-lice will be destroyed while the flock roosts. To help prevent mites from attacking fowls, tie or tack a piece of heavy cloth around ends of roosts and roost supports and saturate with "Black Leaf 40." spray inside of house with "Black Leaf 40," three tablespoonsful to a gallon of water to which soap has been added.

"Black Leaf 40" has the endorsement of Agricultural Colleges, Experiment stations and orchardists. It is the World's leading aphis specific. It also kills the young larvae of many chewing insects when sprayed upon them so as to wet their bodies.

Kills By Contact and By Fumes

"Black Leaf 40" has a dual action. It kills plant insects both by fumes and by contact. This double-killing action makes "Black Leaf 40" unusually effective in insect control.

Paint Roosts . . . Kill Poultry Lice

Poultrymen find that if they paint the roosts lightly with "Black Leaf 40" the lice on the birds are killed. The heat from the birds' bodies releases fumes which destroy lice, as the flock roosts on perches.

Genuine "Black Leaf 40"

"Black Leaf 40" is registered by us in Australia and New Zealand as a Trade-Mark and Brand. Users are familiar with the red labelled packages and the black leaf design prominently displayed thereon. Beware of imitations. Insist upon genuine "Black Leaf 40," made only by Tobacco By-Products & Chemical Corporation.

Distributed in Australia by Neptune Oil Company,
Melbourne, and by Producers' Cooperative
Distributing Society, Sidney

MANUFACTURED BY
Tobacco By-Products & Chemical Corp.
(Incorporated)
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, U.S.A.



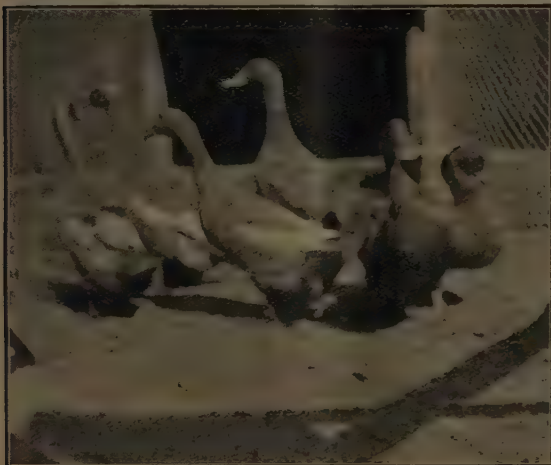
Poultry Notes.

A BALANCED DRY MASH.

"Curious" (E. Kew) writes:

Ques.—Would you advise me through your journal whether a dry mash of the following is a good balanced ration for a laying mash. If not, what alterations would you make:—60 per cent. wheaten pollard, 20 per cent. bran, 12 per cent. lucerne pollard, 8 per cent. meat meal.

Ans.—The above dry mash ration should be quite satisfactory for a laying mash, especially if fed in conjunction with an evening feed of mixed grain.



The Campbells are coming to the fore in egg-laying tests throughout the world. This team, owned by Mr. M. G. Leech, won the recently concluded Government Test at Burnley (Vic.), with a score of 1,589 first-grade eggs in 336 days.

SLACKED LIME.

W.G.J." (Ringwood), writes:

Ques. 1.—If slacked lime is sprinkled on the ground and floor of house, would it injure the birds in any way?

Ans. 1.—No.

Feed for Rosellas.

Ques. 2.—Are there any mashes that you can give Rosellas?

Ans. 2.—No. Rosellas should be fed with the proper parrot foods, such as hemp seed, oats, sunflower seed, and a little millet seed.

DOUBLE-YOLKED EGGS.

"Breeder" (Rockhampton, Q.) writes:

One of my pullets has laid several double-yolked eggs. Can you tell me what is causing this?

Ans.—A large percentage of the double-yolked eggs are laid by pullets before they are 8 months old. Perhaps in some individual cases the normal functions of the egg organs have not been perfected when the pullets start to lay. At some point in the oviduct, one yolk overtakes another, and they enter the membrane-secreting portion

of the oviduct together, where the membrane covers both, and later the shell is put on.

There is nothing that can be done beyond regular and careful feeding. See that the pullets are always contented and avoid scaring them.

NEWCASTLE DISEASE.

"Curious" (Newcastle, N.S.W.) asks the reason why the present poultry disease in Victoria has been called Newcastle disease.

Ans.—The reason is that the disease is similar, if not identical, with a disease that broke out amongst poultry in Newcastle (England) a few years ago, and caused very heavy losses amongst flocks. A more accurate name for the outbreak in Victoria would probably be pseudo-poultry plague. Investigations are now being carried out with a view to ascertaining whether the disease is actually identical with that which occurred at Newcastle, Eng.

Later.—The poultry restrictions following on the outbreak of Newcastle disease in Victoria have been lifted.

BEWARE OF RED MITE!

Prevention of these pests is far easier than eradication, and cleanliness is the main safeguard against invasions of red mites. In order to secure this condition, we must provide for it when the poultry house is built. This should be constructed so as to be free from encumbrances of any sort; no cleats nailed against the sides; no nests immovably fixed.

VICTORIA.

Fruit Shipped by Special Steamer.

A large cargo of fruit was ready when the steamer "Cordillera" arrived in Melbourne from the U.K. on March 24. This was the first shipment of Apples and Pears to be sent from Melbourne by a vessel engaged solely to load fruit. The "Cordillera" received 125,000 cases of fruit while in Port at Melbourne, of which 103,000 cases were Apples and the rest Pears. An additional 50,000 cases of Apples were loaded at Fremantle.

In order to supplement existing tonnage in the transport of our fruit overseas, it is understood that other vessels will arrive from U.K. The steamer "Millais," which left Barry on February 15, is special for Sydney and thence Melbourne, Adelaide and Fremantle to lift a full cargo of fruit.

The "Cordillera" is under the agency of the Commonwealth and Dominion Line in co-operation with the Oversea Steamship Representatives' Association.

Strathfieldsaye.—Excellent quality Cleo. and Dunns Apples are being packed for export. Large quantities of Pears have gone forward from this district.

Exports from Melbourne.—For the week ending March 24, the weekly return of shipments of fresh fruit were 151,139 cases of Apples, 27,581 cases of Pears, making a total for the week of 178,720 packages. Ports of destination were London, Liverpool, Glasgow, Hull and Hamburg. The total shipments for the season up to the same date were 382,616 cases of Apples, 128,470 Pears, 3,624 Plums, totalling 514,710 cases so far this season. The estimated export of Apples and Pears to March 24 was 482,000 cases.

Australian and New Zealand Fruit Trade

Market Notes and News — Prices, etc.

REPRESENTATIVE FIRMS, FRUIT MERCHANTS, AGENTS, REPORTERS.

Advertising in this Journal.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

Sydney:

CITY FRUIT MARKETS

Associated Growers' Selling Agency Ltd.
Black, H. & Son.
Chilton, F.
Fruiters' Supply Company.
Griffiths Fruit Supply Ltd.
Greentree, H. J.
Hop Lee & Co. Ltd.
Kennett, F. C.
Lockart, H. C.

Moss, J., & Sons.
Mugrove, W., & Son.
McEnally, R.
Rogers, F. H. G.
Slater, Jas.
Schuster, A. E.
Smith, L.
Stubbs, J.
Sunnyside Orchards Ltd.
Ward & Felton.
Young, Frank.

VICTORIA.

Melbourne:

Bell, Banson Pty. Ltd., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Cave, F., & Co. Pty. Ltd., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Davis, J., Pty. Ltd., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Frankel, H. & S., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Lister, G., Pty. Ltd., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Mills, A., & Sons, Wholesale Fruit Market.
McLean, N. N., Pty. Ltd.
Mumford, J. G., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Pang & Co. Ltd., H. Louey, Wholesale Fruit Market.
Patrikeos, P. A., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Pitt, A. E.
Producers' Dist. Society, Wholesale Fruit Market.
Ross, J. W., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Sang Goon & Co., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Silbert, Sharp & Davies, Wholesale Fruit Market.
Stott & Sons, T., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Tim Young & Co. Pty. Ltd., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Tong, W. S., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Vear, F. W., Pty. Ltd.
Wade, H. M., & Co., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Wilson, H., Pty. Ltd., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Wing, R. A., & Co., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Wing, Young & Co., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Woolf, G., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Assn., J. D. Fraser, Temple Court, 428 Collins Street, Melbourne.
Young, J. H., & Co. Pty., Wholesale Fruit Market.

Brisbane:

QUEENSLAND.
Barr, A. S., Fruit Exchange.
Cooksley & Co., Fruit Exchange.
Geeves, H. V., Fruit Exchange.
Robsons Ltd., Fruit Exchange.
Winters, E.

Hobart:

TASMANIA.

Eric Burgess Pty. Ltd., 83 Collins Street, Hobart.
E. R. Cottler Pty. Ltd., Temple Place, Macquarie Street.
Jones, H. Co. Ltd., Fruit Exporters.
Peacock, W. D., & Co., Fruit Exporters, and at London.

Launceston:

Bender & Co. Pty. Ltd., 100 Elizabeth Street.

Dunedin:

NEW ZEALAND.

Co-operative Fruitgrowers of Otago Ltd.

Great Britain.

Hull:

London and North-Eastern Railway, 7 Bridge-street, Sydney, N.S.W.

London:

Lewis, E. H., & Son Ltd., Covent Garden, London.
Margeson & Co. Ltd., Covent Garden, London.
Monro, Geo., Ltd., Covent Garden.
Pask, Cornish & Smart, London.
Port of London (Capt. A. W. Pearse, 10 Bligh St., Sydney).
Poupart, T. J., Ltd., Covent Garden.
Ridley, Houlding & Co., Covent Garden.
White & Son Ltd., London Fruit Exchange, Spitalfields, E.1.

Manchester:

The Port of Manchester Rep., W. J. Wade, * Bridge Street, Sydney.

Bremen:

GERMANY.

Fruchthandel, Gesellschaft.

Hamburg:

Astheimer, P. H., & Son, Fruchthof
Gustav Bey, Hamburg.
Int. Fruit Import Gesellschaft.
Lutten, J. H., & Sohn, Hamburg
Stier, Aug., Fruchthof.
Timm & Gerstenkorn.

N.S.W. NEWS AND NOTES.

Apples and Pears now being despatched from Sydney to overseas markets are the best seen here for years. Owing to record crops in this State, large quantities have been forwarded for export, and in order to uphold the reputation of N.S.W. fruit, rejections by inspectors have been numerous. These rejections were the subject of complaint by agents, but it was shown that the numerous Apple rejections, which were mainly due to bitter pit, San Jose scale, and hail marks, were because of the unusually

large quantities of Apples forwarded for export. Nearly six times the normal quantity of Apples is being exported this season from N.S.W.

Canning Peach growers in the Murrumbidgee irrigation area have been rewarded with record crops, and the Leeton and Sydney canneries are in full swing. The fruit from this area arrived in Sydney in excellent condition and the quality has never been equalled. This was largely due to the pre-cooling of the fruit at Griffith before being despatched. Cool weather conditions also enabled the fruit to carry better.

F. CHILTON

ESTABLISHED 1894

FRUIT COMMISSION AGENT

Licensed under Farm Produce Agents Act

Highest Market Prices

Prompt Returns

Reliable Advice

Registered Address for Telegrams and Cables,
"CHILTONS"

References:— Bank of N.S.W., Haymarket, Sydney
and Growers throughout Australia

CITY FRUIT MARKETS, SYDNEY

Recently the daily press of Sydney has devoted considerable space to the alleged wastage of fruit at the Sydney markets. The quantity of fruit sent to the tip during a recent week was 1,800 cases, which is a very small portion of the 350,000 cases which is being marketed weekly during the summer. A number of cases were condemned by the inspectors of the Agricultural Department. These totalled from 800 to 1,000 cases weekly. Much of this fruit was infested with fruit fly and codlin moth, and should never have been despatched to the markets.

A large quantity of inferior fruit has been sold below the cost of marketing, the loss of which had to be borne by the fruit sold at a payable price. There was much fruit that was packed irrespective of weather conditions at the time of picking, and which deteriorated quickly. Growers who criticise the cost of selling should remember that it took far more time, attention and re-packing to sell inferior fruit than it did to sell good fruit.

In past years it was almost impossible to send green Figs to Sydney from the irrigation areas, owing to the fruit breaking down on the long journey. Pre-cooling has revolutionised Fig packing, and since the Griffith Co-operative Packing Society installed its up-to-date cooling plant, Figs have arrived in splendid condition. This fruit is now providing many orchardists with a remunerative side-line.

Orchardists have responded well to the Minister's appeal for prompt payment of the orchard registration tax, and last month the Department of Agriculture was inundated with cheques.

San Jose scale has appeared in many districts again, just when it appeared that the disease was being successfully controlled. Orange and Young districts appear to be most affected by the present outbreak.

SYDNEY'S CONGESTED MARKETS.

Removal Proposed.

THE CONGESTED STATE of the Sydney City Markets was stressed in a report submitted to the Sydney City Council Finance Committee by the Town Clerk (Mr. Hendy) recently. Mr. Hendy said the accommodation was totally inadequate to cope with the volume of business, and suggested three methods of dealing with the present state of affairs—(1) extension of markets on the present site, (2) extension by the establishment of another centre, (3) complete removal of the present markets.

Mr. Hendy's proposals will have to be seriously considered by the City Fathers, for buildings that are occupied by fruit merchants are totally inadequate to serve the purpose for which they were erected. Bad ventilation, dimly lighted stores packed to a degree that in many instances excludes all light from the stallholders' meagre piece of trading space. Maximum rents for minimum space is the order of the day at the Fruit Market, and the majority of the merchants would welcome a change.

The City Council finds itself handicapped in its efforts to reorganise or transfer the fruit, vegetable, and fish markets. It is estimated that a capital outlay of £600,000 will be necessary for a modern day market to meet the existing and increasing requirements of the growers.

Chief of the legal difficulties is that the title and control of the markets are defective. They were originally Crown lands, and have not yet been alienated. Further, the markets are subject to Government control. To make the titles secure amended legislation would be necessary.

The report of the Town Clerk (Mr. Hendy) refers to decentralisation of the markets in the event of a Greater Sydney. This, it is pointed out, would enable the establishment of a market on the northern side of the harbor, making market facilities available to the northern and southern sections of the city.—J.L.C.

Banana Investigation.

The Department of Agriculture, N.S.W., has enlisted the services of Dr. W. J. Young, of Melbourne University, and a member of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, to investigate into the two Banana diseases—blackend and squinter. Dr. Young has been connected with problems of the Banana industry, and it is hoped that he will have success in his investigations. Recently he visited the Tweed in company with Mr. C. G. Savage (Director of Fruit Culture), and stated that when the fruit left the plantations, there was no trace of the disease. It developed when the fruit was being ripened.

Leeton.—At a recent meeting of the Leeton Fruit-growers' Association, the President, Mr. Enticknap, suggested that the Sugar Concession Committee be asked

GROWERS!

Consign your Fruit to:—

JAMES SLATER

21 City Markets, Sydney

Postal Address: Box 36, Haymarket P.O., Sydney.
Established 1882.

Bank Reference: Commercial Banking Co., of
Sydney, Haymarket.

Specialist in Strawberries and all other Choice
Fruits.

All Victorian Fruits and Nuts handled to best
advantage on the Sydney Market.

Shipping No. 19 88 Vic. & Tas.

See Paragraph, Page 209.

Stencils, Advice Notes, etc., on Application.

OLIVER PLOUGHS

And Spares for All Models

FORDSON TRACTORS

And Spare Parts for All Models from 1917

IMMEDIATE SERVICE

MOTOR TRACTORS LTD., Young Street, SYDNEY

Phones B 7336-7

Telegrams "Sellmotors"



F. Chilton, Established 1894.
Fruit Commission Agent,
Licensed Under Farm Produce Agents' Act.
Highest Market Prices, Prompt Returns, Reliable
Advice.
Registered Address for Telegrams and Cables—
"Chiltons."
City Fruit Markets, Sydney.

FRUITGROWERS!

For Satisfactory Results, Send Your Fruit to

F. H. G. RogersFruit Selling Expert,
Municipal Markets, Sydney.

Shipping No. 83.

Established 1900.

**BANANA GROWERS—For Top Market
Prices, Consign Your Fruit to
Hop Lee & Co. Ltd.**
Licensed Farm Produce Agents,
8-9 Municipal Buildings,
Ultimo Road, Sydney, N.S.W.
Opposite City Fruit Markets.
Forwarding Number 25.

SUNNYSIDE ORCHARDS LTD.

Fruitgrowers and General Distributors
47 City Markets, Hay Street, Sydney
Consignments to Our Care
Expertly Attended to.
References.—Bank of N.S.W., Hay-
market, Sydney; Batlow, N.S.W.
Phone M 3228.

J. Moss & Sons

Fruit Merchants,
Municipal Markets, Sydney and
Melbourne.
Importers and Exporters.
Expert Salesmen and Distributors.
Telephone City 3643.
Once a Client, Always One.

R. McEnnally

Licensed Farm Produce Agent,
Information and A/c Sales Promptly.

CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS, SYDNEY.

References All Growers Throughout Australia.

Phone: M 3045.

Private: J 4401

Telephones: Est. 1896.
MA 4432, Epping 840. Bankers: Bank of N.S.W., Haymarket.

H. BLACK & SON,

Licensed Farm Produce Agents,
17 City Markets, Sydney.
Consignments of Fruit, Tomatoes, and Other Produce
Received for Sale.
Cases Sent on Application.
Cash and Account Sales Rendered Weekly.

FRUITGROWERS—

Established 1904.

Ward & Felton, Licensed Farm
Produce Agents,
City Markets, Sydney, Offer You

Expert Salesmanship, Dependable Advice, Prompt
Returns, and a Cheque that is not a "Boomerang."

One Consignment—Long Attachment.

Phones MA 2810 and UJ 3827 (after 7 p.m.).

J. Stubbs,Fruit Merchant and Citrus
Specialist,

Municipal Markets, Sydney.

We dispose of large consignments of Growers' Pro-
ducts. If you are not already consigning to me, I
solicit a share of your patronage.

Quick Results and Prompt Payments are Our Business
Methods. Telephone MA 1758.

FRUIT CASES —**Griffiths Fruit Supply Ltd.**

Municipal Fruit Markets, Hay Street, Sydney.

Canadian Cases Made up and in Shooks.

Gin Bushels, 1/- each.

All Other Kinds Fruit Cases in Stock.

Telephone MA 4826.

Associated Growers' Selling Agency Ltd.

Licensed Farm Produce Agents.

**N.S.W. FRUIT EXCHANGE, BATHURST STREET
SYDNEY, and CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS.**

Manager: BRUCE R. SMITH.

Reliable Service, Prompt Advice and Returns.

Highest Ruling Rates.

References: Union Bank of Australia, 377 George St.,
Sydney, and Growers.

Telephone MA 3846.

Established 1900.

W. Musgrove & Son, Licensed Farm
Produce Agents,
8 City Fruit Markets, Sydney.

Reference—Bank New South Wales, Haymarket.

Our Motto—Quick Sales and Prompt Settlements.

You will be Satisfied by Giving us a Trial.

Forwarding Numbers:

Tasmania, Victoria, S. Australia, No. 53.
Queensland, Northern Rivers, No. 18.

Fruiterers' Supply Co., Licensed
Farm Produce

City Municipal Fruit Markets, Sydney.

Reference—E.S. & A. Bank Ltd., Haymarket.

Fruit and Vegetable Commission Agents.

Also Contractors to Suburban and Country Chain Stores.

We Solicit portion of your Consignments.

Prompt Returns Immediately on Completion of Sales.

Well established business in an advantageous position
in the Market.

to make a sum available to the Fruitgrowers' Canneries' Association for the purpose of finding a market overseas for Peach pulp. Messrs. W. T. Craig, H. Robertson, R. D. Lang, Todd (alternative) together with the President and Secretary, were appointed as a deputation to wait on the Committee on the matter.

New South Wales.

Sydney (27/3/33).—The Market Representative of the Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W. reports as follows:—Apples, eating (Tas.), Alex., 2/6 to 4/-; Duke of Clarence, 2/6 to 4/-; Fanny, 3/- to 5/6; Worcester, 3/- to 5/-; (N.S.W.), Del., 4/- to 10/-; Fanny, 3/- to 5/6; Jon., 4/- to 7/-; King David, 3/- to 5/6; (Qld), Jon., 4/- to 7/-; cooking (N.S.W.), G. Smith, 3/- to 7/-; N.Y.P., 2/6 to 5/6; Five Crown, 2/6 to 5/-; Pears, Beurre de Cap., 4/- to 7/-; Beurre Bosc, 4/- to 7/-; Gansel's Bergamot, 4/- to 7/-; Howell, 5/- to 7/-; Packhams T., 5/- to 9/-; Williams, 5/- to 8/6; W. Cole, 5/- to 9/-; Bananas, Qld and N.S.W., 11/- to 22/-; Fiji, Norfolk Island, 12/- to 22/-, few to 24/-. Lemons, N.S.W., partly colored, 7/- to 12/-; N.S.W. and Vic., colored, 9/- to 14/-; juice Lemons, to 10/-; Vals., 4/- to 12/6. These are practically finished, and prices are purely nominal. Grapes (N.S.W.), Purple Cornichon (M.I.A.), 4/- to 5/-, few choice to 6/-; Black Muscats, 5/- to 6/-, inferior 2/-, few extra choice to 8/-; Doradillo (M.I.A.), 3/- to 4/-, few 4/6; White Sherry, 2/6 to 3/6, few 4/-; White Muscats, 5/- to 6/-, few 8/-; Hamburg, 2/6 to 3/6, few 4/-; Waltham Cross, 4/- to 5/-, choice to 6/-; Gordo, 3/- to 4/-, inferior from 1/6, choice to 5/-; Cornichon and Doradillo are now the chief arrivals. Peaches: N.S.W., 3/- to 4/-, few to 6/- half bush.; Vic. Pullar's Cling, 5/- to 8/-, special to 9/- bush.; N.S.W. Bathurst, 8/- to 12/- bush. Plums: N.S.W., 2/- to 5/- half case, few Pond's Seedling from cool store higher. Pineapples: Qld, 6/- to 10/-; Passion Fruit, N.S.W., 4/- to 8/-, extra special to 11/- and 12/-; Persimmons, 1/- to 3/- half case; Quinces, N.S.W. and Vic., 2/6 to 5/- bush.; special, M.I.A., 7/-.

CO-OPERATIVE BUD SELECTION SOCIETY LIMITED IDEALS AND ACTIVITIES.

For some years it has been recognised that in most orchards there are trees that rarely produce sufficient fruits to be payable whilst other trees are more constant producers of good quality and payable crops, so that with the view to enabling nurserymen to supply trees to planters of the most productive and remunerative standards, the above Society was formed under the aegis of the Department of Agriculture, and consists of representative fruitgrowers and nurserymen. The Society does not and cannot make profits, but merely exists to improve the fruit growing industry by making available for budding, selected buds from special trees of the best types

of quality fruit and reputed good-bearing habits only. Trees from such buds should undoubtedly be more profitable and appeal to all progressive orchardists.

West Australia.

Perth (17/3/33).—Apples, Dunns, dumps, 4/- to 5/6; G. Smith, 6/- to 8/6; Cleo., 3/- to 6/-; Jon., 4/- to 8/- (special to 9/6, others from 3/-); Oranges, plain, flats, 8/- to 11/6; Tomatoes, 10/- to 15/- (special to 18/-); Lemons, 8/- to 14/- (special to 18/-); Plums, all varieties, 6/- to 9/-; Peaches, 2/6 to 5/- (special to 9/-, inferior from 1/-); Nectarines, 12/6 to 14/-; Pears, Bartlett, flats, 4/- to 7/- (special to 8/6, others from 2/6); dumps, 5/- to 8/- (others from 4/-); other varieties, 2/- to 3/-; Grapes, open, white, 3/- to 5/6 (special to 6/6, others from 2/6); colored, 4/- to 7/6 (special to 9/6, others from 2/6); closed, 2/- to 2/9; Passion Fruit, 6/- to 9/- (special to 10/9); Tomatoes, 4/- to 8/- (special to 9/-, others from 2/9).

GROWERS!

Orchardists, Market Gardeners and Flower Growers. We have MONEY TO LEND in various sums up to £200, on Furniture, Pianos, Players, Motor Cars, Trucks, Plant, Machinery, Implements, or any available security. On Promissory Notes without publicity. Lowest rates. Easy terms. Monthly instalments. Minimum charges—No commission. Forward us FULLEST particulars (enc. stamp) or call and we will gladly quote you.

THE MANAGER . . .

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RUSSELL & CO.

Specialists in

Pumping Plants, Engines, Etc.

We will be pleased to give advice and details for any suggested pumping scheme.

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Efficient and Prompt
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Forwarding Numbers:—

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Agencies: LONDON and HULL. Consignments Arranged. References Bank of N.S.W., Castlereagh St., Sydney

PHONE: MA. 1363

Telegraphic Address—"Citrus" Sydney.

APPLE AND PEAR EXPORT.

Details of the export of Apples and Pears from Australia up to March 29, from the Department of Commerce, are as follows:—

	Apples (cases).	Pears (cases).
N.S.W.	110,405	3,694
Victoria	236,297	101,281
Queensland	15,421	105
South Australia	53,265	5,668
Western Australia	59,997	19,762
Tasmania	476,373	—
	951,758	180,510

The principal ports of destination and the quantities sent are as under:—

London: 614,626 cases Apples, 121,232 cases Pears;

Hull, 105,703 Apples; Liverpool, 96,368 Apples; Glasgow, 46,148 Apples; Hamburg, 58,608 Apples; Bremen, 4,013 Apples, 6,707 Pears; Rotterdam, 303 Apples; Stockholm, 425 Apples; Aden, 240 Apples, 10 Pears; Alexandria, 375 Apples.

FEDERAL CITRUS COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Federal Citrus Council held at Melbourne at the end of March (Mr. F. J. Metters presiding), it was decided to make special efforts to secure space for exporting 20,000 boxes of Oranges to Great Britain in mid-July.

Should Eat More Fruit.

Jimson: They say that Snooper lives by his wits.
Jamson: No wonder he looks so hungry.



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18 Municipal Markets, Quay Street,
SYDNEY.

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Satisfactory Results and Prompt Returns,

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The Growers' Friend.

H. J. Greentree

Who Pays the Right Price from the Opening to the
Close of the Season.

Fruit Merchant, Municipal Markets,
Sydney.

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References: Any of our Clients anywhere.

GROWERS! Consign your fruit to

A. E. Schuster

STORE 16, QUAY STREET.

CITY MARKETS, SYDNEY, N.S.W.

Sound Judgment of Prices.

Prompt Returns - - - and Reliable Advice.

Bank, Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney (Haymarket).

Stencils on Application.

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GROWERS,

Send Your Consignments of Fruit and Farm Produce to

Frank Young Licensed Farm, Fruit
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Expert Handling, Salesmanship, and Returns
Promptly Executed.

Bank and Growers' References Submitted.

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H. C. LOCKART

Licensed Farm Produce Agent and Fruit and Vegetable
Merchant,

City Fruit Markets, Sydney.

Highest Prices Secured.

Growers' and Purchasers' Interests Safeguarded.

Splendid Sale for Tasmanian Apples. Phone M 3280.

Guaranteed by Fidelity Bond of £500.

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To Interstate Markets

FRUIT SHIPMENTS FOR SYDNEY AND QUEENSLAND PORTS SPECIALLY
CATERED FOR

REFRIGERATED AND ORDINARY CARGO SPACE AVAILABLE.

Regular weekly service of Fast, Modern, Passenger Steamers, fitted with ventilated 'tween decks and Refrigerator Chambers.

By special arrangement Fruit, etc., for Sydney, leaving Melbourne Noon Saturdays, is delivered on Sydney Wharf 6 a.m. Mondays, ready for early morning market.

Fruit for Brisbane, leaving Melbourne Noon Saturdays, delivered Brisbane Wharf 8 a.m. Thursdays.

SPECIAL REDUCED RATES OF FREIGHT.

For further particulars and sailing dates, apply to:—

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LEMONS, ORANGES, GRAPEFRUIT,
PEARS, PEACHES, APRICOTS,
BERRIES, CHERRIES.

BROOKE'S LEMOS LTD.

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— Telephone, M 3141. —

PATENTS GEORGE A. U'REN

PATENT ATTORNEY

"HENRY HOUSE," 499 LITTLE COLLINS ST.
MELBOURNE.

"Fruit World Annual"

Comprehensive review of
Australian and New Zealand
fruit industry.

"The Fruit World," Box 1944
G.P.O., Melbourne.

PEARS FOR CANADA.

The steamer "Golden Cloud" left for Pacific Coast ports on March 23 carrying the second shipment of Victorian Pears to Canada for the current season. 4,000 cases are for Vancouver. She was preceded a week earlier by the "Canadian Constructor," with a similar consignment aboard for Montreal.

These shipments will be followed by others later: they are the outcome of experimental cargoes which were sent from Australia to Dominion markets last year.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

M.I.A. and Coastal Growers.—Gosford growers recently carried a resolution condemning the Government

for its policy of assistance to growers on the Murrumbidgee irrigation area, alleging that this resulted in unfair competition with other parts of the State.

M.I.A. growers state that the attitude of the coastal growers is largely due to a misconception of the position.

Levy on Dried Tree Fruits.—The N.S.W. Dried Fruits Board has decided to impose a levy of one-thirty-second of a penny (1/32d.) per lb. on the quantity of dried Prunes, dried Peaches, dried Apricots, dried Nectarines and dried Pears produced by each grower during the 1933 season. This levy is the same as that imposed on growers of dried vine fruits.

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All interested are invited to write for free copies of Gerrard Packing Charts, 1932 issue; Mixed angle & straight packs; 1933 issue; Straight packs for all varieties.

Gerrard Wire Tying Machines Co. Pty. Ltd.
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SYDNEY. BRISBANE. ADELAIDE. PERTH. HOBART.

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Consignments solicited.

One Trial Invited.

Best Prices obtained.

Prompt Advice and Payment.

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12 Wholesale Fruit Market

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Speciality—Prompt Returns. Cheque every
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60 Wholesale Fruit Market

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Manufacturers of "PLANE" brand
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Telephone F 5550.

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MELBOURNE

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William Street, Melbourne.

HIGHEST PRICES

and

PROMPT RETURNS

SHIPPING NO. 48

"WE STRIVE TO PLEASE"

Victoria.

Melbourne (29/3/33).—Prices quoted yesterday by the Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association were:—Apples, per case: Eating, 2/- to 3/-; special, higher; cooking, 1/6 to 2/6. Bananas: Q'land, per double case, green, 8's, 9's, 19/- to 20/-; 7's, 17/- to 18/-; 6's, 14/- to 16/-; Fijian, 18/- to 22/-; repacked, to 24/-. Cucumbers, to 4/-; special green higher. Grapes, 3/- to 6/-; special higher. Lemons, per case: Best colored, 14/- to 16/-; green and faulty lower. Passion Fruit, 5/- to 6/- half-case. Peaches, per case, 2/- to 4/-. Pineapples, per double case, 7/- to 10/-. Pears, W.B.C., green, 4/- to 5/-; special, to 6/-; others, 2/- to 3/-. Rosellas, 2/- to 3/- half-case. Tomatoes, 1/- to 3/-; only a few special higher. Val. Oranges, 5/- to 12/-; special higher.

The Melbourne market manager of the Federal Citrus Council of Australia reports that sales yesterday were as follow:—Vals., average standards, medium counts (126 up), 9/-; few 10/-; large, slow, from 4/-; green, 2/- to 3/- lower; selected standards, to 14/-, best counts; specially selected from 16/-, best counts. Lemons, average standards, well colored, 15/- to 16/-, best counts; specials higher; green and faulty, 3/- to 4/- lower.

Red Hill.—There was a large attendance at the Red Hill show on March 22, which was opened by Col. Harrison, M.H.R. In the fruit section, Miss A. E. Dennett scored 100 per cent., followed by Edwards Bros. with 99 per cent. The following Apple varieties were noted amongst the exhibits:—Jons., Stewart Seedling, Reinette du Canada, R. Beauty, Yates, L. Pippin, G. Smith, Rokewood, etc. Pears: Packham's T., Josephine, Brown Park, and others. The following were the principal prize-winners:—G. Clarke, R. Holmes, F. Nash, N. Prosser, G. Laurrissen, W. G. Roberts, W. Haig, Miss P. Wright, G. Cole & Son, R. McSwain, K. Cleine, M. Trewin, A. E. Thornell, Mrs. Hellicar, W. Ridge, A. E. Dennett, R. H. Holmes, J. E. Roberts. There were also sections for farm and dairy produce and horses.

SHOW BOAT FOR THE EAST.

Early in April the s.s. "Nieuw Holland" leaves Australia as a "show boat," with a special consignment of Australian goods to assist in developing trade with the Near East. Mr. George Wing Dann (Wing, Young & Co.), Wholesale Fruit Market, Melbourne, is taking consignments of fresh fruit, believing that a big market can be developed for Oranges, Apples, Grapes, etc. He



MR. G. WING DANN.

is also enquiring into the possibility of developing trade in various kinds of Australian produce, including potatoes, onions, barley, etc. Messrs. Wing, Young & Co. have established branches of their firm at several Eastern ports. Mr. Wing Dann will display Australian goods at the Empire Fair, which is to be held shortly at Hong Kong.

F. W. VEAR PTY. LTD.

*Fruit and Vegetable Salesmen
Commission Agents - Exporters*

**28 New Wholesale Fruit Market,
Melbourne - Victoria**

Highest Market Rates Assured - Prompt Settlements

Fruit Exported to all countries. Supplies of wood wool, cases, nails, wire and other packing equipment always on hand.

V.C.C.A. Marketing Arrangements.—A resolution was adopted at the annual conference of the Victorian Central Citrus Association on March 29, to increase their list of accredited agents from seven to ten, such agents to be permitted to register as merchants if desired. This arrangement stands for one year as a trial.

Kyabram (20/3/33).—A record fruit season is being handled. So far 107,000 cases of Peaches have been received at the cannery.

Merrigum (20/3/33).—Last week 29,905 cases of Peaches were despatched from Merrigum Station. This is a very much heavier tonnage than at this time last year.

GRUBBING

Thousands
in Use

It earns its
Famous
LOW PRICE
in a Few Days

Write for
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WITH A "DIGGER" WINCH

A Man can uproot more Trees and Stumps in
a Day than he would dig out in Ten Days

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MAIN ENTRANCE TO MARKET



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Commission Agents,
No. 37 Wholesale Fruit Market,
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Branches 141 Little Bourke St.
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Telephone F 1744.

Consignments of Fruit and
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Assured Highest Market Rates.

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Growers in all States are invited
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Growers can be assured of receiv-
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Consignments Solicited

Growers—Consign your Fruit to

THE OLDEST ESTABLISHED FIRM IN THE TRADE.

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Phones—Store: F 5932; Private: Hawthorn 3155.

H. M. WADE & CO.

Fruit Commission Agents

No. 21 Wholesale Fruit
Market, Melbourne

Prompt Advices and Account
Sales

Phone: F 4866

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Member of Wholesale Fruit
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Established 1893.

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MARKET, MELBOURNE.
Consignments Solicited from all
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Growers Will Receive Top
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Highest Prices & Prompt Returns.

38 Wholesale Fruit Market, Melbourne
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Ocean Cruises.

By the Popular Steamer "Karoola."

20 Days' Delightful Holiday.

(By "See Kay.")

OCEAN CRUISES nowadays are the most popular and inexpensive means of spending your annual or long-looked-for holiday. The lure of travel is one to which almost every person responds. To visit new scenes, to imbibe new ideas and to meet new peoples is the common desire. To see with one's own eyes the strange customs of the natives, to hear the varying dialects and thus satisfy one's own imagination are most of the attributes of travel.

In this regard, the interstate steamship companies have laid plans, specially to cater for such holiday seekers, and a wise choice of vessels has been made in allotting the popular s.s. "Karoola" to run a series of three ocean cruises, each one occupying about 20 days from Melbourne.

The first cruise is to Noumea, the capital of the French possession, New Caledonia, commencing from Sydney on April 13 next. Here may be studied the French methods of settlement and the native customs. Noumea has been recently opened up as the destination of tourists enjoying a short ocean cruise out of Australia. Passengers commencing from Melbourne travel by interstate passenger steamer which connects with "Karoola" at Sydney. The following itinerary, weather permitting, will be maintained by "Karoola":—Leave Sydney April 13; arrive and leave Brisbane April 15, arrive Noumea April 18, and remain there two days, leaving for the return journey via Brisbane on April 20, arriving back in Sydney on April 24.

Passengers will be afforded ample opportunity of visiting places of interest during the two days' stay at Noumea. Return fares of this cruise are, from Melbourne:—First saloon, £20 to £24; third class, £12.

The second cruise, commencing from Sydney on April 26, embraces New Hebrides, Norfolk and Lord Howe Islands, via Brisbane, arriving back in Sydney on May 9. Return fares from Melbourne are:—First saloon, £22 to £26; and third class, £14.

We have only read of the modes of life on these beautiful islands. How often has one said, "It must be paradise living under such conditions." No O.H.M.S. mail in your letter boxes, no police, no newspapers, and care not a jot for "bodyline bowling." Now see for yourself and satisfy that curiosity; actually see the inhabitants that live this life of blissful contentment. Plenty of fishing, fresh fruit and hospitality.

The third cruise will be made to the wonderful Barrier Reef, commencing from Sydney on June 3, and arriving back at Sydney on June 16. The return fares from Melbourne are:—First saloon, £22 to £26; and third class, £14.

This cruise will give passengers an opportunity of actually landing on several small islands within the Great Barrier Reef, an opportunity under ideal and perfectly safe conditions. What a chance! Never before has such a cruise been attempted by passenger steamers. The famous Whitsunday Passage is traversed and the glorious scenery to be witnessed will remain a lifelong memory. Imagine six days among such famous tropical scenery—six days in sheltered coves and calm waters. Then again the opportunity of actually walking along a coral reef at low tide, gazing at the blaze of color, gives the thrill of thrills.

Hikers are well catered for as some of the islands to be visited apart from their quaint beauty, provide all the thrills possible to make the "foot sloggers" outing something out of the ordinary to talk about on return to the steamer.

This chance might not come again.

For the whole of these cruises the comfort of the passengers has been given special attention. In addition to the excellent cuisine (equal to any first-class hotel), and the service, a special swimming pool has been erected on board. Consequently, when packing the case, do not forget your bathing costume. In the tropical climate swimming will be a favorite pastime. On a spacious deck, dancing will be enjoyed at any time to the refrain of the latest dance music, amplified by special apparatus. Also a special orchestra has been engaged for these cruises, so excellent concerts are assured.

That the popularity of holiday ocean cruises, inaugurated this season by the interstate steamship companies is spreading, is manifest in the large number of bookings from both town and country folk alike.

There are still some first and third class berths available for each of these cruises, but early application to ensure best accommodation is necessary. A special concession with separate berthing accommodation is available for parties of four or more third-class passengers

S.s. "Karoola,"

comfortable steamer for ocean cruise.



SPECIAL NOTICE TO FRUITGROWERS

All Members
under
Fidelity Bond

In response to numerous requests from growers for information as to who are members of the WHOLESALE FRUIT MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA, the following list is given. All are members of the above Association, and are registered firms carrying on business in the

Wholesale Fruit Market, Melbourne

Stand numbers are as indicated in parentheses.

H. M. WADE & CO. (21).
T. STOTT & SONS (26).
H. L. E. LOVETT & CO. (23).
A. E. PITT (14).
J. DAVIS PTY. LTD. (8).
W. S. TONG (31).
SILK BROS. PTY. LTD. (24-25).
J. G. MUMFORD (35).
GOLDEN VALLEY FRUIT CO. PTY. LTD. (15).
W. SWEENEY PTY. LTD. (33).

J. W. ROSS (13).
J. H. YOUNG & CO. PTY. LTD. (32).
DAVID SMITH PTY. LTD. (3).
SILBERT, SHARP & DAVIES PTY. LTD. (17).
A. MILLIS & SONS PTY. LTD. (34).
W. A. WATKINS (5).
P. A. PATRIKEOS (36).
R. RENOF (22).
G. WOOLF & SONS (29-30).
F. CAVE & CO. PTY. LTD. (9).
R. CORNISH & SONS (5).
J. HYMAN & SON (51).

GROWERS PROTECT YOURSELVES by consigning to members of the WHOLESALE FRUIT MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA.

Correspondence is invited by the Association.

J. D. FRASER, Secretary, 422-428 Collins St., Melbourne

booking at the same time. McIlwraith, McEacharn Limited, of William-street, Melbourne, are managing the "Karoola" cruises, and fuller details will be provided on application to their office.

Other ocean cruises have been established by the s.s. "Dimboola." These cruises, commencing from Melbourne, covering 2,400 miles once a fortnight, have become one of the most popular holiday trips this season. This cruise embraces Stanley, Burnie, Devonport (North-West Tasmania), Sydney and Brisbane, and returning to Melbourne via Sydney. Several trips have already been completed with all first and third class accommodation fully booked. In fact, all the first-class berths have been booked up to April 12, but a few third-class berths are still available for all future tours.

A few first-class berths are still available for the cruises leaving Melbourne April 26, May 10 and 24.

The popularity of these cruises is undoubted, as will be confirmed by enquiring from any one of the hundreds of passengers who have been fortunate enough to have already made the "round trip." Dancing on a spacious deck to amplified popular dance music, fancy dress balls, competitions in all deck games, specially arranged—shore trips to places of interest at all ports—all this goes to make the 12 days from Melbourne the happiest of holidays.

The Melbourne Steamship Company, 31 King-street, Melbourne, will be pleased to supply further details on application to their office by telephone or letter.

"If you're RUN down, WIND UP on a cruise."

A very little faith of our own is worth ten times the quantity of another people's.—Rev. R. F. Horton.

The finest phrase in the English language—"Enclosed please find cheque."

ENGLISH FRUIT PRICES.

London (10/2/33).—In the weekly report of T. J. Poupert Ltd., Spitalfields Market, the following prices were realised:—English Bramleys, 5/- to 7/- bus.; Cox Orange Pippin, 12/- to 14/- per $\frac{1}{2}$ box. Covent Garden C.O.P. in trays, 3/- to 5/- per doz., 10/- to 18/- per $\frac{1}{2}$ -box; Newton Wonder, 5/6 to 7/- bus.

London (March 16).—Australian William Pears from the steamer "Moldavia" realised 8/- and occasionally 10/- a case in London. Strong competition was experienced from Argentine and South African fruit, which realised 10/- to 12/- a case.

London (March 10).—The Australian fruit season was opened by the arrival of Victorian Plums and Pears in London. The Plums were in excellent condition, but the Pears were squashy.



250 cases of Cleo. Apples for export, on truck at orchard of Mr. Alec Neil, Amphitheatre, Vic.

—Photo. by courtesy C. J. Parnham.

KYABRAM.

Great Activity at Fruit Cannery.

Kyabram district (in the Goulburn Valley) has been very busy this summer.

Operations at the Kyabram Co-operative Fruit Cannery are in full swing—a very big pack of Apricots, Peaches and Pears is being processed, and at present a staff of 450 operatives is busily engaged with the late Peach crop.

The crop of Peaches is so heavy that to handle the fruit many thousand cases have been cool stored to prolong the canning operations.

Over 5,000 tons of fruit will be processed this season, producing approximately seven million cans.

The quality of the pack is excellent, and the percentage passed for export is highly satisfactory.

The importance of the cannery to Kyabram and district cannot be over-estimated, practically all the employees are local residents and the business establishments reap the benefit.

The town of Kyabram has greatly improved since the cannery was established ten years ago. Many of the stores have been rebuilt on modern lines, and the city chain stores have established branches here. The town presents a busy and interesting scene.

The fruit growers also reap much benefit from the local cannery, the high standard of fruit demanded by the cannery management has stimulated a higher standard of efficiency on the orchards, and some young profitable orchards are coming into bearing. The Shire Council has been alert and attentive to the roads which was necessary to carry the increasing heavy loads of fruit en route to the cannery.

Tasmania.

Hobart (24/3/33).—Apples, C.O.P., 3/- to 4/-; Lady-in-Snow, 3/- to 5/-; R.P., 2/6 to 3/-; St. Law, 3/- to 4/6; W.P.M., 2/6 to 3/-; Del., 3/- to 4/-; Alfristons, 3/-; Alex., 3/-; small and inferior varieties 1/- to 2/- case; dessert Pears, W.B.C., G.B., B.B., 3/- to 4/-; spotty and inferior, 1/6 to 2/- case; Tomatoes, 2/- to 5/- case; Peaches, 5/6 to 7/6; Plums, 1/- to 5/- case.

Queensland.

Brisbane (24/3/33).—Cust. Apples, 4/- to 5/- half case; Grapes, Stanthorpe, Muscatels, 5/- to 6/- case; White Syrian, 2/6 to 3/6; Ascots and Black Prince, 3/- to 4/6 case; Walthams, 5/- to 7/-; G.C., 3/- to 4/6; White Muscats., 4/- to 5/-; S.P., 6/- to 8/-; P.C., 5/- to 7/- case. Pears, Stanthorpe, 3/- to 5/-; Passion Fruit, first grade, 9/- to 11/- case; second grade, 2/6 to 4/-; Southern Val. Oranges, from N.S.W., 9/- to 13/- case; Southern Lemons, 13/- to 15/-; Persimmons, 1/- to 2/6 case; special trays, 3/-; Quinces, 3/- to 5/- bush. case; Queensland Apples, Jon., 5/- to 7/6 case; G. Smith, 5/- to 7/-; Demo., 4/- to 6/-; King David, 4/- to 5/6; R.B., 5/- to 6/-; Del., colored, 4/- to 6/-; Munros and Dunns, 3/- to 4/-; Senators, 4/6 to 6/- case; Limes, 3/- to 4/- case; Southern Plums, 5/- to 7/-; Lemons, Benyenda, 16/- to 18/- bush. case; local Lemons, 6/- to 12/- bush. case; Papaws, Yarwun and Gualda, 8/- to 9/- bush. case; Pineapples, best, 4/- to 5/6 case; sunburnt, 1/6 to 2/6 case; Ripleys, 5/- to 8/-; Grapefruit, 6/- to 8/-; local Navel Oranges, green, 10/- case; Pears from Vic., W.B.C., 7/- to 9/-; G.B., 8/- to 9/-; B.D.C., 5/- to 7/-; Howells, 7/- to 7/6.

Sturmers or C.O.P.—The Sturmer variety is the principal export Apple from New Zealand. The same variety bulks largely in Tasmanian export. Mr. C. Higgs, a fruitgrower from Mapua, Nelson, New Zealand, recently raised the query as to whether it might not be better for New Zealand to specialise more in the Cox's Orange Pippin variety and leave the specialising of the Sturmer to Tasmania.

The measure of a man's life is the well spending of it—not the length.—Plutarch.

Nurture your mind with great thoughts; to believe in the heroic makes heroes.—Disraeli.

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NEW ZEALAND.

Dunedin (16/3/33).—Messrs. Reilly's Central Produce Mart report as follows:—We are pleased to state that the fruit market shows signs of improvement, especially does this apply to stone fruits and dessert Pears. Supplies of Apples are sufficient for all requirements. Tomatoes have been in full supply, and selling at unprofitable prices. Some very choice second crop Strawberries have come into the market from Waimate, Alexandra, and the Roxburgh district. The fruit has been of excellent quality, and commanded fair values. Grapes are now coming into the market in large supplies, the quality being really excellent.

During the week there was an increased demand for both Lemons and Oranges, but we anticipate ample supplies being available to meet all requirements, though we think the demand during the next few days will be exceedingly keen.

Vegetables.—Owing to the dry weather, supplies are somewhat short of requirements.

TASMANIAN PACKING SHED DESTROYED.

Incendiarism Suspected at Spreyton.

The Spreyton Apple packing shed was destroyed by fire on March 27, when 4,000 cases of Apples, which were ready for export, and case material for 12,000 cases were destroyed. An adjoining shed was saved. The damage is estimated at £4,000. It is suspected that the fire was caused deliberately.

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TOBACCO CULTURE.

Premises have been secured in Ararat by the Amalgamated Tobacco Company, Astoria Park, Pomonal, for the storage of tobacco-leaf grown and purchased in the district. The building is at the rear of the Ararat Hotel. This is an important step forward in a promising cultural development.

VICTORIA.

Harcourt, Vic. (31/3/33).—There is great activity just now in the Harcourt district, the growers and packing houses being very busy and handling their crop for export and local trade. At the packing house of the Harcourt Fruitgrowers' Progress Association (H. Clark, Secretary), as many as over 2,000 cases have been packed in one day. A Lightning Grader, Model No. 24 is installed. Another day, 1,250 cases were packed in eight hours, over the same machine.

At the packing house of the Harcourt Fruit Supply Ltd. (C. Wilson, manager), two Lightning Graders are installed, and between 1,000 and 2,000 cases are packed daily.

The district crop ranges from 800,000 to a million cases, and the fruit is wonderfully clean.

IMPERIAL FRUIT SHOW.

The third spring section of the Imperial Fruit Show for Australian, New Zealand and South African Apples and Pears will be held at the new Horticultural Hall, London, on June 7 and 8, 1933. Entries need not be specially packed, but will be drawn from commercial consignments in England. It will only be necessary for exhibitors in overseas classes to authorise their agents in Great Britain to hand over appropriate packages of their fruit for exhibition in the class selected by them. The class and conditions remain unaltered as compared with the 1931 and 1932 shows. Each entry will consist of four one-bushel boxes and entry fee of 10/- per entry must be paid. Growers who intend competing should get into touch promptly with the Director, Department of Agriculture, Melbourne, from whom full particulars may be obtained.

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Queensland

BANANA RESEARCH.

THE COMMONWEALTH BANANA COMMITTEE held its first meeting on March 2, in Sydney, in camera. The Committee has been formed by the Federal Government to deal with research, transport, cultural practice, storage and advertising of Bananas. The main purpose, stated Mr. J. Gunn, Chairman, was to find ways and means for the expenditure of the amount of duty received from importation of Fiji Bananas, which is expected would be £5,000. £2,000 would be spent on research work, and the scheme of scientific research would be submitted to the Federal Government for approval. It is understood that publicity officers will be appointed.

It is the intention of the Committee to hold a Banana display in Melbourne shortly.

Deciduous Section.—The quarterly meeting of the Deciduous Section Group Committee was held at the Parish Hall, Stanthorpe, on February 24.

Present.—Messrs. M. Greener (Chairman), R. G. Newlands, D. Pfrunder, H. L. Bullen, J. L. Luke, S. Barber, D. G. T. Gow, W. Clegg, and the Secretary (A. D. Philp). Mr. Walker, who was recently appointed as representative of the C.O.D. in the district, was introduced by the Chairman.

Among the matters discussed was the question of hail relief. The sub-committee reported in favor of relief being given unconditionally (after due investigation), and that the Secretary be empowered to issue fertiliser or seed to the value of £7 to necessitous cases. After lengthy discussion, the matter was referred back to the Committee for certain further consideration.

Show at The Summit.—An excellent display of fruit was staged at the recent show at The Summit (Queensland), which was opened by Mr. E. Costello, M.L.A. There was a large attendance, and the show was a great success. The Summit growers were congratulated by Mr. Costello on the great strides being made in the export of fruit to the overseas markets. During February, 7,775 cases had left the district for Brisbane and Sydney for export. The Apex Cup presented by The Summit Fruit-growers' Co-operative Association for the highest number of points for fruit at the show—A. H. and A. E. Paget (25 points), 1; R. T. Jolly (19 points), 2.

Two new packing sheds have been opened this season in the Stanthorpe district, one at Passmore and the other at Thulimbah.

Gympie (Queensland), as a Banana producing centre has suffered severely. Trips having wiped 800 to 1,000 growers out of the industry during the past few years. Mr. M. Buchanan, speaking at the recent meeting of the Banana Section Group Committee, urged that growers

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withdraw financial support from the Banana Protection Board, the reason being that for two and a-half years he had been trying to point out the urgent necessity for scientific research, and a campaign to control the diseases and pests that had overtaken the Gympie district. Mr. Buchanan referred to the export figures of the last few months, and the tremendous reduction was due entirely to the decline of production in the Gympie district north of Cooran. The loading centre at Gympie had declined from £200,000 two years ago to £10,000 in 1933. Rusty fruit had been placed on the market which also added to the low standard. He refused to believe that the menace had been taken seriously. Gympie growers had contributed about £7,000 since the establishment of the Board three years ago and during that period growers were experiencing a rapid decline in production. Mr. Buchanan added that the Minister for Agriculture had been urged to take up the matter of investigation of the pest, but as far as he could see from past experience, it would be 1940 before something would be done.

QUEENSLAND PINEAPPLES.

In order to prevent the forwarding of immature southern Pineapples on to the Queensland market, the Executive Council has approved of an amendment of the regulations providing for a new maturity standard for Pineapples. The new standard will permit of the institution of a system of inspection of all southern consignments of Pineapples and will provide for fully developed fruit, which during November to March, shows a distinct tinge of yellow color at the base, and during April to October is quarter yellow-colored at the base.

LIVE-WIRE DAUGHTER.

Sam: "Say, Mose, howcum you name dat gal 'Lectricity?"

Mose: "Well, you see, Sam, my wife's name am Dinah and mine's Mose and dynamos makes 'lectricity; so us jus' named ouh little gal 'Lectricity.'"—*"Southern Salesman."*

QUEENSLAND FRUIT IN MELBOURNE.

The Melbourne manager of the Committee of Direction of Fruit Marketing (Mr. A. V. Wilson) advises as follows, under date March 25:—

The following are details of Queensland fruit which arrived in Melbourne from January 25 to March 22.

From January 25 to February 22.—(Cases): 21,514 Bananas, 11,699 Pineapples, 36 Mangoes, 37 Rosellas, 33 Passion Fruit, 13 mixed fruit, 11 Papaws.

From February 23 to March 22.—(Cases): 24,670 Bananas, 11,824 Pineapples, 468 Rosellas, 12 mixed fruit.

ALMOND CULTURE.

THE GROWING OF ALMONDS forms the subject of a Bulletin recently issued by Mr. Geo. Quinn, Chief Horticultural Instructor, S. Australian Department of Agriculture. The following hints refer to the cultivation of the Almond inland. The Almond is a Mediterranean tree and does well in a dry, hot climate with a fair rainfall. Although it will resist drought to a considerable degree and will grow in shallow, sandy soils, it is not a success when planted on land with retentive ill-drained subsoils. It requires a deep, well-drained loamy soil, rich in lime and other material constituents that form plant food. It thrives best where the annual rainfall ranges between 15 to 23 inches. Where the rainfall is heavier and cold frosty weather in early spring when the trees are breaking into leaf and blossom, the conditions are fatal. Young Almonds are susceptible to frost.

Hot dry inland places would prove ideal for growing Almonds if the moisture available were sufficient to carry the trees through long dry spells. In the Murray Valley, which is irrigated, the necessary moisture and dry atmosphere have produced Almonds of excellent quality.

The Almond is propagated by budding the desired varieties on to seedlings raised from hardshell nuts. The land should be carefully and deeply broken by means of the subsoiler or by explosives. Trees should be planted 22 to 24 feet apart. After the first soaking rain in the autumn, the young trees should be planted out and they should be pruned back short. The stem should be set 15 to 20 inches high to lift the trees well clear of the soil. The soil should have the usual orchard cultivations.

Pruning and Shaping the Tree.

The new growth on the young trees should be carefully regulated in the early summer. The terminal points of the stronger main shoots should be nipped out once or twice. During the next winter the framework shoots should be regulated and spaced, and buds on the upper sides of pendulous growing shoots should be chosen to continue the growth in a more vertical direction.

A considerable quantity of Almonds should be gathered about the fifth year after planting. The yield should increase until the tenth or twelfth year, when a good average should be reached. Harvesting should be carried out in dry hot weather, and the nuts knocked off by means of a bamboo and collected in a sheet beneath the tree. Gentle knocking should be used to dislodge the fruit.

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Tasmania: State Fruit Advisory Board.
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